


Simmonds's
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SIMMONDS'S
COLONIAL MAGAZINE.

SOME ACCOUNT OF PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND,
WITH REFERENCE TO ITS PHYSICAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND MEDICAL
CHARACTERS.

General Description.—Pulo Pinang, or Prince of Wales Island, is situated in the Straits of Malacca, near to the Malayan Peninsula, from which it is separated by an arm of the sea, between lat. 5. 15. and 5. 25. N., and long. 100. 25. E. It runs north and south, and is about sixteen miles long, and eleven broad at the northern extremity, but at the south end it diminishes in some places to six miles. It is estimated to contain one hundred and sixty square miles. Probably two-thirds of the island are mountainous; the remaining third is made up of distinct flats or plains. The former consists of two ranges, which also run north and south, but are of very unequal height and length. The principal, or west range, stretches from one end to the other of the island, but has a pretty deep notch running across it, near to its centre, by which it is divided into two halves; the north end of the smaller, or east range, begins nearly opposite to the notch alluded to, from which it extends southward and terminates opposite, near the centre of the southern half of the west range. The two ranges do not lie exactly parallel. The last one runs on a line slightly crooked towards its south end, the convexity of which is opposed to the line of the west range, and at this point the two are united by a short cross ridge of raised ground. To the north of this ridge there is consequently a valley of considerable width between the two ranges, but to the south of it the mountains are only separated by a narrow deep ravine. Besides these there are several little hills or eminences scattered over the plains. The flat part of the island consists of several distinct parts, the severer number and chief of which are situated on the east side of the island. The only road of communication between the plains on the north and west is across the western range through the notch above given, and is known as Captain Low's route.

Particular Description of the West Mountain Range and Hill Residences.—The west range is very lofty and in many parts

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very steep. At its northern extremity it rises out of the sea and rapidly attains its greatest height, and then gradually becomes lower as it approaches its southern end, which also dips into the sea. Its base is unbroken, but its top is divided into a great number of hills and eminences quite distinct from each other. Viewed from the plains, or the sea, or the opposite coast, the summit appears to be one continuous line of hills; but when observed from the highest part of the range, two lines of hills—an east and a west—become obvious, and run nearly throughout the whole length of the top of the range. Between some of the hills there is only a ravine of inconsiderable depth, and between others one of great depth and some extent, whilst others again are farther apart and separated by valleys. A notch has already been noticed which crosses this range about its centre, and disunites it into a northern and southern division. The whole of it is covered with high forest-wood, and dense jungle, excepting a few places which have been cleared on the tops and shoulders of some of the hills, and at the bottom and for some way up the sides of the base of the range. The clearing has in a great measure been confined to the east line of hills, and east side of the base of the range. On the former the process has not been extended of late years, or at least to any considerable amount; but on the latter it has been very greatly increased during the last four or five years.

With the exception of one hill of the west line of hills, none have received particular names. This hill is situated in the northern division, and has been called the "Western Hill," and is the highest of the whole range. By theodolite measurement it is estimated at 2922 feet above the level of the sea. It commands a very extensive view to the west and north; the east line of hills obstruct the view in that direction. From this hill at sunset, if the weather is clear, a vessel can be seen passing at a distance of sixty or seventy miles; or any number of miles off, the eye will receive an impression. A small extent of the forest-wood and jungle has been cut down around the top, I presume for the purpose of opening up the view; but no house or bungalow, as far as I know, was ever erected, most probably because the harbour and town situated to the eastward are invisible from it.

Although not one of the hills of the east line is so high as the Western Hill, yet, with this exception, they are generally higher than those of the west line. Many of them have been cultivated to some extent, and others have been built on, and received particular names. I shall more particularly describe them, beginning with those to the northward.

The "Great Hill," or, as it is sometimes called, the "Flagstaff Hill," is the furthest north of the hills of the east line that have been occupied or are known from any particular name. It is the highest hill of the line, and the next in height to the Western Hill: according to measurement made by Captain Belcher, of U. S. "Sulphur," an elevation by barometrical observation of 2410, and by sound of English feet. The top of this hill was cleared partly for a signal station, but, perhaps, chiefly as a resort for invalids. Its free expos-

north, south, and east, made it well adapted for the former, and time has proved it to be admirably fitted for the latter—it is the *Sanatorium* of our hills. The summit is divided into several small eminences, differing very little in height; on five of these there at present stand five good comfortable bungalows, all supplied with glazed doors, &c. I understand two applications for pieces of ground on this hill have lately been made to Government; one of which, it is rumoured, is on account of certain parties in Calcutta. Grants of small pieces of ground for building purposes may be given without endangering the healthfulness of the hill, unless they are given in such numbers that the whole, or a great part of the hill, would be cleared—however, more of this anon. Of the five bungalows, two belong to Government, and three to different private persons. I shall give a more particular description of each; and first of the one called “The Government Bungalow.”

This is a very excellent bungalow, or rather it is two bungalows united by a long verandah, the one facing the south, the other the north, and could accommodate with ease two families of moderate size. There are good outhouses and stables attached. The bungalow stands on a peak about twelve orlongs or sixteen acres in extent, which is cut up into pleasure-walks that run round the peak, rising one above the other, and united at different places. On either side are broad flower-plots, decorated with a variety of kinds of the English rose, flowers, and other shrubs—all kept in excellent order. A kitchen-garden is also maintained, which, with a little care, will yield the cabbage, turnips, peas, and a variety of other vegetables; and I believe, with a little more attention, potatoes and strawberries can be reared. At the north end of the bungalow there is a flagstaff and telegraph station. Vessels seen at a distance and making for the island are signalled from the former, and the latter is sometimes used for communication to or from the hill by means of another telegraph stationed in the Fort. This bungalow is kept up by Government for the use of the Governor of the Straits Settlements, and also, I believe, for the accommodation of distinguished persons of H. M. Services, and of the H. E. I. Company's Service visiting the Settlement for the benefit of their health. It is never offered for rent.

The other bungalow maintained by Government is called the “Convalescent.” It is a small but comfortable house, and has accommodation for a family of five or six persons. There is stabling for two horses. The bungalow stands on a flat piece of table ground of about an orlong in extent, and is, perhaps, the best exposed situation of the Great Hill. It is situated at a short distance north and west of the Government Bungalow. The ground about the house is always preserved in good order. This is intended as a *Sanatorium* for the officers of the H. E. I. Company's Service, and is let to them at the very moderate rent of eighteen dollars a month partly furnished. It is never given for a longer period than a month at once; but if no other application is made before the end of the month, the tenant has the option of remaining during the next. In the event of no officer applying, a private

individual may have it upon the same terms and rent. The practice is to keep it open for applications from officers until the 25th of each month; and if not engaged at that date, a private person by application then or before the end of the month may secure it for the following month.

The next bungalow I shall mention, stands on an eminence called "Terne Hill." It is a new bungalow, in good condition, and larger than the last, to the west of which it is situated, a few hundred yards distant. The hill occupies one acre of ground, which is also laid out in fancy walks and flower-plots. It can be rented at 30 dolrs. a month completely furnished.

Bellevue is the fourth, and is placed on a rising ground a short way to the east of the Government Bungalow. It is a large substantial bungalow, and can afford comfortable accommodation for a very large family, and is well supplied with outhouses of every description. It stands on a grant of 17 orlongs or 23 acres, but not more than six orlongs, perhaps, of the original jungle have been cleared. There is a considerable space of table-land before and behind the house very tastefully laid out, and kept in excellent order. The Bungalow is partly furnished, and rents at 50 dollars *per mensem*.

The last that remains to be noticed is "Strawberry Hill," which is built on the top of a round pointed eminence, situated a short way to the south of the Government Bungalow, and separated from it by rather a deep narrow ravine. It has a double flight of rooms, the only one of the kind on this hill, and is in every respect a comfortable residence. The grant of this ground measures 20 orlongs, or rather more than 26 acres—all of which has been cleared and partly cultivated with spices, and partly laid out in pleasure-walks, &c. It is always clean and in good order. This is the only bungalow on the Great Hill around which clearing of the jungle has been carried to any extent. The house has for some years past been let on a lease at a rent of 30 dollars a month.

A road through the forest unites the Great Hill with the Western Hill. It is three miles in length, in no part extremely steep, in some places nearly flat, throughout of a good width, generally in very passable order, and nearly in every part shaded by the wood at all times of the day. A person not *extremely* nervous may risk his neck at a sharp canter the whole way. This is the principal road, but from it others lead right and left into the jungles. One or two of these—each about a mile in extent—run round rising grounds, and although narrower than the road described, are yet perfectly safe. One ascends a small hill, and then dips down into the forest for about a mile, then makes a turn, and after winding about for a long way, opens again into the principal road at a different place. Others only lead up to rising grounds to exhibit some view or other, and there terminate. There is one very long, narrow, and not very safe road, or rather path, runs through the forest in different directions, and, after leading to the manufactories of several charcoal burners, continues its course downwards and opens into the valley between the two mountain ranges. Along the line of this path

the traveller will observe an immense rock projecting from the face of a very steep portion of the hill for a considerable way beyond the soil, and left hanging there as it were by the touch of some magic wand. From the Great Hill a very good road (the continuation of the road from the Western Hill) leads down the east face of the hill to the plain. This road is in some places very steep and has many turnings, but it is kept in good order and is perfectly safe for horsemen. It is about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length, and can be travelled either way in less than an hour. It is the usual route to the Great Hill—of which more hereafter.

From the Great Hill there is a very pleasing and extensive view. All the bungalows are well situated; one may command a greater extent of view in a particular direction than another can, but, perhaps, from the northern end of the Government Bungalow there is a more general and better prospect than from any other part. From this position the observer beholds nearly the whole of the flat part of the island laid out before him; the whole of Province Wellesley is exposed to his view, and as large a tract of the Malayan Peninsula as his eye will carry him over; vessels approaching from the north and south can be seen at a great distance,—his view to the west only is limited. With a good "Dolland" he may spend an hour agreeably there every day.

The next hill of this range which comes to be mentioned is called "The Highlands of Scotland," situated directly to the eastward of the Great Hill, and separated from it by a very deep ravine which terminates at the south end in the Ayer Puteh Valley, and at the north in The Waterfall, both of which will be noticed in another section. This ravine is so deep, and the line of separation so distinct, that this hill is almost entitled to be considered one distinct from the range. The road from the Great Hill to the plain crosses a wooden bridge thrown over the ravine, and then runs down the side of the Highlands of Scotland until it reaches the plain. The wooden bridge alluded to is about half-way down the road from the Great Hill, or rather more than one and a half miles from the top of the hill, and from it the ravine between the two hills opens up for a considerable way to the northward into a valley of some width. The lower portion of this valley has for some years been cleared and cultivated with spice trees by Chinese squatters; and the large forest-wood of the upper part has lately been cut down by Chinese, as I am informed, for the purpose of manufacturing charcoal. The Highlands of Scotland is estimated to be 1500 English feet above the level of the sea. It is completely overlooked by the Great Hill. There is an excellent capacious two-story house on its summit, which is partly shaded by large trees planted round it. To the north of the house there is a considerable piece of table-land. The hill is well supplied with good water. The grant on which the house stands contains thirty-three orlongs or forty-four acres, which, since the year 1807, has nearly all been cleared and cultivated with nutmeg and clove trees. The view from this hill is nearly as extensive to the east as it is from the Great Hill, and of the plain below it is better, inasmuch as being

nearer it is more distinct. But to the north and south the prospect extends only to the extremities of the range—to the west there is the forest-wood on the eastern face of the Great Hill, on which the eye can be occasionally relieved. Two roads lead from this hill to the plain—one runs down the west side, winding through the forest for a short way, and then joins the road from the Great Hill; the other runs down the north-east side, and is very steep; the former is the better of the two. This bungalow may be rented furnished for 30 dolrs. a month, and is sometimes let by the proprietor, for the convenience of a tenant, for any period at a rent of 1 dolr. *per diem*.

About half-way down the north-east face of the Highlands of Scotland the descent suddenly stops, and here the hill juts out and forms a protuberance, which is separated from the rest of the hill by a ravine on either side of it, and this has received the name of "Ravenswood." From this again another protuberance bulges out, which is, in like manner, separated from it by ravines. Ravenswood is probably about 700 feet high, and is twenty-one orlongs or twenty-eight acres in extent—the whole now cultivated with spices. I believe a two-story bungalow has lately been erected on it. It is not used as a place of resort by invalids—so far as I know.

The only other hill of the northern division of this range which remains to be noticed was formerly called "Jackson's Hill," and more recently it has been known as "Mount Elvira." It stands south-west from the Great Hill, distant about two and a half miles, and is, I believe, nearly the same height. It can be approached from either side of the island by Captain Low's road, from the highest or middle point of which a pathway strikes off to the north, leading through the forest to the summit of the hill. The latter part of the road is now overgrown with grasses, swarming with a troublesome species of jungle leech, which, if it happens to fix upon either man or beast, quickly draws blood, and produces considerable irritation and swelling of the part. Thorny jungle crosses the path in various places; the path itself has many holes, and altogether it is a very dangerous one to travel. The top of the hill was once the site of an elegant bungalow, the roof of which fell in a few months ago. It has been altogether forsaken for many years, from the hill being deemed unhealthy. When it was built, in 1819-20, a large piece of the ground around had been cleared for the purpose of spice cultivation—the clove chiefly—and while it was inhabited the process of clearing was extended. After 81 orlongs or 108 acres of forest and jungle had been cut down, and the ground turned up and planted out, it was found necessary altogether to abandon the cultivation, and leave the trees to their fate, in 1827, in consequence of a number of both Europeans and Natives having died after a short residence on the hill from attacks of remittent fever. This hill then became the terror of the place; it was considered fatal to any one who casually visited it, and even at the present day a visit is not considered by some altogether free from hazard. Perhaps there is no other situation which affords so

good a view of the plains on both sides of the island at once, and commands such an extent of hill scenery. At all events, the view from this hill is splendid; but the delight which this produces is mixed with melancholy when the eye meets the numerous skeletons of lifeless spice trees which still stand amidst the jungle that has again grown up.

The eastern line of hills of the southern division of this range has been called the "Pentland Chain," but certain of them have particular names.

The furthest north of these is called "Clubley's Hill," and the one adjoining it known as "Ibbetson's Hill;" they were both opened in 1822-23, almost entirely for the purpose of cultivation. The first was cleared to the extent of 150 orlongs or 200 acres, and the second in like manner to 100 orlongs or 133 acres, and both were planted with clove trees. The former is 1580, the latter 1800 feet above the sea. Both can be approached by Captain Low's road. The trees thrive remarkably well for a few years, but after they had attained a certain age and yielded only one or two years' crop they began to fade and die away; on this account partly, but, perhaps, chiefly because the air was unhealthy to those who resided on them, and caused fevers of various types, they were ultimately in 1830 completely abandoned, and have never been re-occupied.

The only other hill of this division which needs be noticed is "Belmont." This hill is the most southern of the Pentland Chain, and is remarkably well exposed, especially to the south, east, and west. It is about 1700 feet high. On its summit there is a very good bungalow of two stories, having all the accommodation requisite for a large family. The bungalow is shaded by arseenna trees. It affords a good view of different parts of the island, and vessels at sea can be seen at a great distance to the south, and still better to the west. It stands on a grant of 700 orlongs or 933 acres, and, I believe, after it was first occupied in 1819 the greater part of this was cleared of forest-wood, jungle, &c. and cultivated with spices, pepper, and a great variety of fruit-trees; but at the present time there are only 100 orlongs or 133 acres retained, planted out with nutmeg trees. Many years ago the bungalow used to be offered for rent, and was then, I understand, very frequently rented; but I am not aware that it has ever been so for some years past, although it is frequently occupied by the proprietor or his friends. There are different and conflicting accounts as regards its healthfulness in former years: however, of late times it has been deemed as healthy as those of the northern division of the range. There are several roads which connect it with the plains of both sides of the island. Those leading to the valley between the two ranges can be travelled either way in less than half an hour.

Beyond the "Pentland Chain" the numerous other hills which stretch to the extreme southern point of the island are not known by any particular name, and, excepting some spots opened out by Chinese squatters, have never been cleared and cultivated.

*Particular Description of the East Mountain Range and Hill Residence.**—This range commences in the south with Soongy Neebong Hill, being there on the east continued by two low hillocks to the sea, on the south gradually sinking through broad irregular elevations into the plain of Soongy Kluan,† and on the west stretching for about a mile and a half by a low hill-range to the southern and least elevated part of the Pentland Chain. Soongy Neebong Hill descends slightly on the north-west, and the range is then continued in that direction by a broad neck which rises rapidly till it attains a considerable elevation above Soongy Neebong Hill, where it forms a rounded summit separated by a notch from the highest peak of the southern division of the range, which rises steeply to the north, forming an elongated flat, sinking very abruptly on its eastern and western sides. On the latter it projects a great rib, or ridge, with an inclination to the southward, which terminates in this direction in a low hill immediately north of the south-west point of the range, but sends out a limb to the eastward facing and almost parallel to the low hill-range above mentioned. The inferior rounded summit throws out a broad flank or buttress in a southerly direction, distinguished by its upper part being covered with lalang, and which descends with a pretty regular slope towards the low hill-range. Before reaching it, however, it is met by the eastern limb of the peak, and with it on the one side, and the western face of Soongy Neebong Hill on the other, forms an irregular gorge through which the waters of its eastern side are sent to assist in irrigating the paddy fields of Soongy Kluan. It is remarkable that in the rocky angle formed by the lalang flank, and the rib of the peak, two streams take their rise from the same source, one running at first in a southerly, and then in an easterly direction, and falling into the gorge first mentioned, and the other running at first in a southerly direction, keeping near the former, then deviating slightly to the westward, finding its way through a depression in the eastern limb of the rib, to the long narrow gorge between it and the low hill-range, and then pursuing its course down this gorge in a direction sometimes due west, but generally inclined to the north, till it falls into a stream of considerable comparative volume, which has its source at the foot of the cross ridge connecting the east and west mountain ranges, and which, after traversing and giving its name to Soongy Kluan plain, falls into the sea by a creek navigable by large boats, the mouth of which is nearly opposite the centre of Pulo Jerajah. But, to re-ascend to the mountain tops, passing the southern peak the summit of the range takes a north-west direction, again rises into a peak (which sends down a rib, the west terminating in the connecting cross ridge), and then takes a northerly course, when it gradually sinks to a considerable depth and terminates the southern division. The northern division rises from this place by an even slope, then sinks slightly and rises again with a much steeper but

* The writer is indebted to the notes of a friend for this part of his journal.

† A particular description of the plain will hereafter be given

very regular ascent to Mount Restalrig, the highest point of the range called Bookit Gambier, about 1,500 feet in height, and on which there is a small bungalow. The range then stretches in a crooked direction, first north, then north-east, and lastly north-west in a pretty level line (with the exception of two slight descents) for three-quarters of a mile, when it sends out a spur to the west, from which a long limb stretches to the north-west into Ayer Etam Valley, descends very steeply, in some places perpendicularly, between this extremity and its centre, where, after a considerable descent, instead of being directly connected with the next hill by a short cross ridge, as is almost always the case, it throws out a narrow projection which unites it with a round hillock which stretches to the west. This bend to the north hillock passes into a singular ridge of about half a mile in length, the extremity of which rises into the central rib of the southern face of Low's Hill. From between the connecting projection and the south-west extremity, or near the bottom of the most perpendicular portion of this face of Bookit Gambier, the range is continued in a more direct line, having for about three-quarters of a mile a deep gorge dividing it from Low's Hill on the one side, and for a short space the Ayer Etam Valley limb on the other. After the latter is lost in one of the dry elevated pieces of table-land of which Ayer Etam Valley principally consists, the range forms the eastern wall of the Valley, proceeding, after Low's Hill is left behind, in a direction almost due north, then descending into Kokchye's Hill, and terminating in a rounded hillock, as has been observed, almost due east of the notch dividing the western range. This portion of the range to the north of Low's Hill is steep on the Ayer Etam Valley side, but for the most part gradually slopes down to the level ground of Tulloh Jelutong on the opposite side. The east side of Mount Restalrig is formed of several ribs, with hollows between them; the most southerly is a broad elevated flank, thrown out from the rounded summit constituting the middle elevation of the southern face.

(To be continued.)

A TABLE showing the Number of Nutmeg Trees and Plants growing on Prince^{*} and Quantity of Ground under

NAMES OF PROPRIETORS.	NAMES OF ESTATES OR SITUATIONS.	Bearing Trees.	Males.	Not Bearing.	Total planted out.	No. of Plants in Nursery.
D. W. Brown	Glugor, Yarrow, Pentlands, &c.....	17593	4801	20137	12531	23110
G. Stuart and Speirs.....	Scotland	7500	6000	2500	16000	4000
R. Ibbetson.....	Ayer Etam and Ayer Puteh	4000	759	3000	7759	1000
J. A. Palmer and W. Caunter	Kelso, Caunter Hall, &c.....	5038	3039	7303	15380	1500
G. Scott	Ayer Rajah, Nutmegs Hall, &c.....	1418	630	5618	7696	2500
Tan Watsoy	Karlow, Battu Lanchang, &c.....	2750	1680	2600	7030	...
F. S. and A. S. Brown.....	Soonghy Nebong	200	200	8000	8400	3000
D. Ainslie	Waterfall.....	2500	2200	860	5560	1600
Kow Cockchye	Baly Pulow, &c.	1975	260	2125	4350	500
Syed Sallim.....	South part of Scotland.....	2500	2000	...	4500	...
F. S. Brown and Cockchye...	Battu Lanchang Hill	1714	1261	388	3363	600
C. C. Currier	Near Suffolk	677	742	1736	3155	...
F. S. Salmond	Suffolk and York	1500	503	1689	3692	1200
Kam Seong Soo	Sepoy Line, Battu Lanchang, &c	1590	680	150	2720	500
D. C. Mackey.....	Julotong	691	756	1113	2560	...
Lim Chin	Karlow, &c.....	850	650	150	1650	...
A. D' Souza	Opposite Ayer Rajah, &c.	630	105	950	1685	...
Mahomed Noordin	Ravenwood, &c.	250	50	2000	2300	...
Rev. S. Tisserend	R. C. Church, Pulo Teeceos, &c.	577	770	1078	2425	...
Nonia Gun	Battu Lanchang & Ayer Etam, &c	700	400	400	1500	...
C. F. Harcourt	Near York	606	600	800	2000	...
N. M. M'Intyre	Pulo Teeceos	159	360	871	1390	...
J. Thorse	Do. do.	450	361	194	1005	...
Kam Kongay	Ayer Etam	200	200	650	1050	...
Khoon Tean	Tulloh Combar and Bali Polow...	600	360	900	1800	...
Taw Kay	Sunghy Dua	500	300	200	1000	...
Nonia Mitchee	Ayer Rajah.....	350	280	170	1100	...
A. A. Anthony	Northam Road	130	157	194	481	...
Rev. J. E. Boucho.....	Pinang do.	167	293	40	500	...
J. P. D' Murat	Pulo Teeceos, &c.	300	200	...	500	...
A. M'Intyre	Soonghy Nepah	25	100	385	510	...
J. Hogan	Alexander's, &c.	60	70	241	371	...
G. D. Galastaun	Northam Road	100	200	300	600	...
Nonia Appolonia	Pulo Teeceos	150	78	122	350	...
Nonia Burnett	Ayer Rajah	67	130	163	360	...
Cheah Onsoon	Pulo Teeceos	70	187	193	450	...
Lye Awley	Do. do.	115	120	115	350	...
Nonia Molore.....	Do. do.	90	130	380	600	...
Nonia Erskine	Do. do.	70	40	20	130	...
Khoon Boon	Do. do.	120	70	150	340	...
J. R. Logan	Pyah Trubong .....	...	...	891	891	...
Lee Geang	Karlow	112	45	500	657	...
L. Nairne.....	Battu Feringhee, &c.	172	112	193	477	...
Total of large Plantations in Pinang		59210	31809	70085	161204	39510
Total of 114 smaller do. within the Panguluship of Ayer Rajah.....		792	1000	5639	7431	5000
" 34 do. do. do. of Julutong.....		900	1100	3457	5457	1000
" 42 do. do. do. of Glugor.....		1200	2500	8300	12000	3000
" 67 do. do. do. of Soonghy Klau ..		600	700	6700	8000	1000
" 104 do. do. do. of Balik Pulow ...		2000	2000	8000	12000	3000
" 13 Plantations omitted		100	100	1821	2021	...
Total number of Nutmeg Trees in Prince of Wales Island		64902	39209	103982	208093	52510

of Wales Island, the Amount and Gross Value of Produce derived therefrom, Cultivation, drawn up in October, 1813.

Quantity of Ground under Cultivation.			PRODUCE.				Gross Value of Produce in 1843.			Estimated Number of Nuts in 1843.	Estimated Number of Nuts for 1844.
			Number of good Nuts in 1842.	Number of Inferior Nuts in 1842.	Total Produce in 1842.	Quantity of Mace in 1842.	Good Nuts at 5 dols. per 1000.	Inferior Nuts at 1 dol. per 1000.			
Or.	J.	F.				P'ls.	Cats.	Drs.	Cts.		
460	200	...	6966093	771016	7737109	130	973	35601	47	5476000	9887000
200	2045171	96902	2142076	37	45	10322	77	1800000	3000000
90	1952832	433597	2386429	40	19	10197	75	1200000	2500000
250	800000	...	800000	16	...	4000	...	600000	1500000
70	371325	39579	410504	5	68	1896	19	300000	600000
70	181000	4000	221000	4	15	915	...	250000	700000
84	3000	...	3000	...	6	15	...	10000	30000
80	251305	11495	262800	1	...	1168	1	200000	500000
13	60000	8000	68000	1	30	308	...	100000	300000
60	60000	...	60000	1	...	300	...	70000	200000
31	106158	8640	114798	2	31	539	43	100000	400000
24	183590	...	135590	2	71	679	45	100000	300000
30	365692	...	365692	7	31	1828	46	313262	490000
28	92000	43000	135000	2	31	503	...	110000	400000
25	15122	...	15122	...	31	75	61	24000	72000
17	100000	5000	105000	2	65	505	...	100000	250000
19	100000	...	100000	2	...	500	...	75000	200000
20	150000	...	150000	3	...	750	...	100000	200000
24	60000	...	60000	1	20	300	...	70000	150000
16	300000	...	30000	...	60	150	...	40000	100000
28	40000	...	41000	...	88	204	...	20000	80000
16	60000	4000	60000	1	20	300	...	55000	135000
10	120000	...	120000	2	...	600	...	150000	300000
10	15000	...	15000	...	27	75	...	20000	100000
10	60000	...	60000	1	20	300	...	60000	150000
10	12000	...	12000	...	24	60	...	12000	50000
10	4000	...	40000	...	80	200	...	40000	100000
1	300	...	300	...	...	1	50	500	2000
5	2500	...	2500	...	5	12	50	6000	20000
5	10000	...	10000	...	20	50	...	10900	50000
7	15000	...	15000	...	30	75	...	12000	30000
4	100000	...	150000	3	...	750	...	100000	20000
6	6000	...	6000	...	12	30	...	6000	15000
3	100000	...	100000	2	...	500	...	75000	200000
3	5000	...	5000	...	10	25	...	6000	15000
4	100000	...	10000	...	20	50	...	10000	50000
2	200	...	50000	...	5000	1	...	250	...	40000	80000
5	5000	...	5000	...	10	25	...	6000	15000
1	50000	...	50000	1	...	250	...	30000	80000
3	20000	...	20000	...	40	100	...	50000	40000
9
6	40000	...	40000	...	80	200	...	40000	80000
4	2000	8000
1811	11656391	1161229	16117620	27	71	74613	14	11768762	23579000
77	30000	...	30000	...	60	150	...	60000	300000
51	100000	...	100000	2	...	500	...	120000	300000
120	14400	...	14100	...	30	72	...	40000	300000
80	55800	...	55800	1	12	279	...	100000	300000
120	250000	...	250000	5	...	1250	...	350000	600000
20	10000	...	10000	...	20	50	...	20000	50000
2282	15116591	1161229	16577820	286	96	76914	14	12458762	25120000

A TABLE showing the number of Clove Trees and Plants growing in Prince of
Quantity of Ground under Cultivation,

NAMES OF PROPRIETORS.	NAMES OF ESTATE OR SITUATION.	Bearing Trees.	Not Bearing.	Total planted out.	No. of Plants in Nursery.
D. W. Brown	Glugore, &c.	14285	15869	30154	14500
G. Scott	Ayer Rajah, &c.	2010	7730	9770	500
G. Stuart and Speirs ..	Scotland	2500	2500	5000	1000
F. S. & A. S. Brown ..	Soongy Nebong	600	7000	7600	4000
D. Ainslie	Waterfall .....	..	950	950	..
J. Hogan	Highlands	5000	500	5500	..
Mahomed Noordin	Ravenswood	700	300	1000	..
Tan Watsoye	Karlow and Sepoy Lines ..	500	2250	2750	..
J. A. Palmer	Caunter Hall, &c.	74	351	425	500
L. Nairne	Battu Feringhee, &c.	68	40	108	..
C. C. Currier	Julians	5	200	205	..
D. C. Mackey	Jullutong .....	..	200	200	..
R. Ibbetson	Ayer Puteh	200	50	250	..
J. R. Logan	Pyah Trubong .....	..	540	540	..
Total of large plantations in Pinang ..		25972	64452	64452	20500
Total of 23 small do. Panguluship of Ayer Rajah		512	2758	3300	2000
Do. 6 do. do.	Jullutong	1340	360	1700	600
Do. 10 do. do.	Glugore	200	1000	1200	500
Do. 27 do. do.	Soongy Khuan ..	85	442	527	1060
Do. 10 do. do.	Baly Pulow	600	1000	1600	500
Total number of Clove Trees in Prince of Wales' Island		28739	44010	72779	25161

A TABLE showing the number of Clove Trees and Plants growing in Province
Quantity of Ground under Cultivation,

NAMES OF PROPRIETORS.	NAMES OF ESTATE OR SITUATION.	Bearing Trees.	Not Bearing.	Total planted out.	No. of Plants in Nursery.
Major Low	1443	1443	..
A. M'Intyre	13	23	36	..
Battu Kawan	60	100	160	..
Bukit Mera and Tengah	2000	2000	..
Bukit Indra Muda	1000	2000	3000	..
Laba Ekan Mati	1000	1000	..
Total number of Clove Trees in Province Wellesley ..		1073	6566	7639	..
Do. of Prince of Wales Island brought down		28739	44040	72779	25161
Total of P. W. Island and Pr. Wellesley, 96 pltns.		29812	50606	80418	25161

The above Tables were compiled principally from information furnished by the proprietors and agents of the different estates to the Committee of the Pinang

Wales Island, the amount of Gross Value of Produce derived therefrom, and drawn up in October, 1843.

Quantity of Ground under Cultivation.			No. of Piculs of Cloves in Season 1842, 1843.		No. of Piculs of Mother Cloves in Seas. 1842, 1843.		Gross Value of Cloves & Mother Cloves for Season 1842, 1843.		Estimated Produce of Clove Crop for 1843, 1844.		Estimated Produce of Mother Clove Crop for 1843, 1844.	
Or.	J.	F.	Pls.	Cats.	Pls.	Cats.	Drs.	Cats.	Pls.	Cats.	Pls.	Cats.
198	47	62	..	..	1804	..	324	..	71	..
60	13	..	..	..	520	..	25	..	..	..
30	7	..	..	..	280	..	20	..	..	..
40	50	..	..	20	..	2	..	..	..
15	1	..	..	..
30	5	..	..	..	200	..	30	..	..	..
7	2	..	..	..	80	..	6	..	..	..
16	2	..	..	..	80	..	4	..	..	..
2	200	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50	..	..
1	1	..	..	..	40	..	3	50	..	..
1	10	..	..	4	..	1	..	..	..
1	8	..	..	3	20	1	..	..	..
1	200	..	..	20	..	..	8	..	1	..	..	..
3
406	78	50	..	..	3039	20	419	..	71	..
20	9	..	..	..	360	..	50	..	..	..
13										
9										
3										
12
463	87	50	..	..	3399	20	469	..	71	..

Wellesley, the amount of Gross Value of Produce derived therefrom, and drawn up in October, 1843.

Quantity of Ground under Cultivation.			No. of Piculs of Cloves in Season 1842, 1843.		No. of Piculs of Mother Cloves in Seas. 1842, 1843.		Gross Value of Cloves & Mother Cloves for Season 1842, 1843.		Estimated Produce of Clove Crop for 1843, 1844.		Estimated Produce of Mother Clove Crop for 1843, 1844.	
Or.	J.	F.	Pls.	Cats.	Pls.	Cats.	Drs.	Cats.	Pls.	Cats.	Pls.	Cats.
10
..	13	..	..	5	20	..	20	..	..
1
15	2	..	..	..
20	1	..	..	..	40	..	5	..	..	..
8	1	..	..	..
54	1	13	..	..	45	20	8	20	..	..
463	87	50	..	..	3399	20	469	..	71	..
517	88	63	..	..	3444	40	477	20	71	..

Chamber of Commerce, appointed to draw up a report and estimate of the extent of cultivation in this Settlement.

F. S. BROWN,
Chairman of the Pinang Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture.

A TABLE showing the number of Nutmeg Trees and Plants growing in Province Wellesley, the Amount and Gross Value of Produce derived therefrom, and Quantity of Ground under Cultivation, drawn up in October, 1843.

NAMES OF PROPRIETORS.	NAMES OF ESTATE OR SITUATION.	Bearing Trees.	Males.	Not Bearing.	Total planted out.	No. of Plants in Nursery.	Quantity of Ground under Cultivation.		Produce.				Gross Value of Produce in 1843.		Estimated Number of Nuts for 1843.	Estimated Number of Nuts for 1844.	
							Or.	J. F.	Number of good Nuts in 1842.	Number of inferior Nuts in 1842.	Total Produce in 1842.	Quantity of Mace in 1842.	Good Nuts at 5 dol. per 1000.	Inferior Nuts at 1 dol. per 1000.			
																	pls.	cats.
Major Low & Dr. Brassey	Bukit Mera, Tamboon, &c.	6000	3000	2650	11650	..	100	...	1616100	..	1616100	28	28	8980	50	1500000	2000000
A. McIntyre	Batu Kawan	1237	1317	1407	3961	..	40	...	183519	18842	202361	3	29	936	43	230000	400000
Rev. J. B. Boucho	Batu Kawan	2300	2500	1000	5800	..	60	...	150000	..	150000	2	62	750	..	200000	500000
Sundry Plantations	Batu Kawan	463	776	1000	2211	..	24	...	20000	..	20000	..	35	100	..	20000	50000
Ditto	Bukit Tengah	150	150	650	950	..	10	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8000
Ditto	Bukit Indra Muda	250	250	200	700	..	7	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Other Places		106	100	400	600	..	6	...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total Number of Nutmeg Trees in Prov. Wellesley		10500	8095	7307	25902	..	247	...	1969619	18842	1988461	32	54	9856	93	1980000	2958000
Total of Prince of Wales Island		64902	39209	103982	248093	525102282	...	...	13115591	1461229	16577820	286	56	76944	14	12458762	25429000
Total of Prince of Wales Island and Province Wellesley, comprised in 423 Plantations		75402	47304	111289	233995	525102529	...	...	17086210	1480071	18567281	321	50	868911	7	14438762	25337000

THE INDIAN HUNTER.

BY H. W. LONGFELLOW.

WHEN the summer harvest was gather'd in,
 And the sheaf of the reaper grew white and thin,
 And the ploughshare was in its furrow left,
 Where the stubble land had been lately cleft,—
 An Indian hunter, with unstrung bow,
 Look'd down where the valley lay stretch'd below.

He was a stranger, and all that day
 Had been out on the hills, a perilous way;
 But the foot of the deer was far and fleet,
 And the wolf kept aloof from the hunter's feet,
 And bitter feelings pass'd o'er him then,
 As he stood by the populous haunts of men.

The winds of autumn were over the woods,
 As the sun stole out from their solitudes;
 The moss was white on the maple's trunk,
 And dead from its arms the pale vine shrunk,
 And ripen'd the mellow fruit hung, and red
 Were the trees' wither'd leaves around it shed.

The foot of the reaper moved slow on the lawn,
 And the sickle cut down the yellow corn;
 The mower sung loud by the meadow's side,
 Where the mists of evening were spreading wide,
 And the voice of the herdsman came up the lea,
 And the dance went round by the greenwood tree.

Then the hunter turn'd away from that scene,
 Where the home of his fathers once had been,
 And heard, by the distant and measured stroke,
 That the woodman hew'd down the giant oak;
 And burning thoughts flash'd o'er his mind
 Of the white man's faith, and love unkind.

The moon of the harvest grew high and bright,
 As her golden horn pierced the cloud of white;
 A footstep was heard in the rustling brake,
 Where the beech o'ershadow'd the misty lake,
 And a mourning voice and a plunge from shore,
 And the hunter was seen on the hills no more.

When years pass'd on, by that still lake side
 The fisher look'd down through the silver tide,
 And there, on the smooth yellow sand display'd,
 A skeleton, wasted and white, was laid;
 And 'twas seen, as the waters moved deep and slow,
 That the hand was still grasping a hunter's bow.

THE EMIGRANT: A TALE OF AUSTRALIA.

BY W. H. LEIGH, ESQ.

AUTHOR OF "RECONNOITRING VOYAGES AND TRAVELS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA, CAPE
OF GOOD HOPE;"
H. V. P. OF THE AFRICAN INSTITUTION OF PARIS, ETC. ETC.

CHAPTER VII.

"And on that cheek, and o'er that brow,
So soft, so calm, yet eloquent,
The smiles that win, the tints that glow,
But tell of days in goodness spent."

HEBREW MELODIES.

"Good morning, Captain."

"Good morrow, Mr. Blair."

"What's the pace this morning? About six, I fancy?"

"Why, I should say, maybe half a knot more."

"By-the-bye, Captain, who is that delicate, mysterious young lady, who confines herself so strictly to her cabin? May I be informed *who* and *what* she is? I am extremely curious upon that matter, and long to know."

"Why, Mr. Blair, I can gratify you so far as this—she was accompanied on board by an elderly gentleman and three young ladies, who wept bitterly during the whole time they remained. The gentleman begged of me to give her every attention in my power, to seek her the best lodgings possible upon my arrival in Australia; and, in the event of her not wishing to remain, my orders are either to bring her back to England, or put her on board any vessel which or whatever she may choose. Her passage is paid, and her maid's also; and the parties who came with her had a coronet upon their carriage. Now, my dear sir, you know quite as much about her as I do."

"Well, but, Captain, is it not mysterious? Is it not wonderful?"

"Very."

"What can that delicate and unprotected flower do in a lone and desolate wilderness?"

"That, sir, is more than I can answer."

"But, Captain—really I'm quite bewildered—is your vessel then not to touch at Sydney?"

"Yes, she is."

"And will she accompany you?"

"That, as yet, I cannot say."

"How very strange! But here comes Rennie. Well, Rennie, my worthy, *comme vous passe la nuit*?"

"*Passablement, je vous remercie.* Glorious weather?"

"It is."

"We have just been trying to capture one of those beautiful polypi, the Portuguese men-of-war as they call them; but ——"

"Where's a Portuguese man-of-war? Good morning, gentlemen. Where's a Portuguese man-of-war?"

"Good morning, Turkey. No, the polypus so called. There, look you! What splendid colours! Cook, just dip your bucket under that fellow. Ay, there you have it, bring it here. Well, what radiant colours to be sure! I'll just lift him out. Just feel the weight of him, Turkey."

"I'm obliged; I never take liberties with strangers. I prefer the faculty of sight to that of touch, to either wolves, crocodiles, or Portuguese men-of-war. Once I did accidentally handle one, and, if memory serves—Ay, ay,—ha! ha! What, he's stung you, has he?—ha! ha!"

"Rennie! what, are you bit? Ha! ha! You forgot he was a *noli me tangere*. I was once caught, and they sting like nettles, don't they?"

"It is, Turkey, irritating like nettles."

"Well, then, you'll not get rid of that delightful sensation for several days; for, if memory serves, a pocket-handkerchief I had on at the time I was tickled by one—that very handkerchief stung me a fortnight afterwards, and, for what I know, might have given the old washer-woman a touch into the bargain. Here's the Mate: ask him how he does, and shake hands with him."

"Well, how are you this morning, Mate?" (holding out his hand and familiarly shaking him).

"Nice weather indeed, this, Mr. Blair," said the Mate. "Yes, we trip through nicely, though I can't say how long it will last. Sky looks rather coppery," again remarked the Mate, (scratching his hand); "it may hold out another degree or so, but—(rubbing his hand lustily,) but I can't say I have much opinion—I can't think what's the matter with my fist all in a minute!—it smarts, and pricks, and shoots."

"Let me look," cries Turkey. "Ah! it's all over red spots,—you have been drinking a little over-night—had an extra north-wester, no doubt?"

"No, indeed, sir. I am sure, nothing of that sort."

"Well—I see—you had better consult the Doctor, and get bled directly, and mustard poultices under your arms. I'm sorry to say it's decided—but I won't frighten you."

"What do you think it is, sir?" said the Mate, continuing his friction.

"I think it's only the prickly heat. I often have that in hot climates, and the best remedy I find is just a good stout dose of salts; though it's a medicine I abhor."

"Well, I tell you what," interrupted Mr. Turkey, "that is no prickly heat! But come with me into my cabin; it's a pity to disturb the Doctor. I know your disease: I've got a remedy—follow me." As Mr. Turkey spoke these words, he put his arm with a firm link through

the yielding limb of the easy Mate, and they both left the deck for the dormitory of Mr. Turkey. No sooner were they fairly gone than a loud laugh rang amongst the party who had been accessory to the mischievous Toby.

"I have been pumping the Captain," said Blair to Rennie, "just before you came on deck, relative to that beautiful creature below."

"And what have you made out?" interrupted Rennie.

"I have made out," said Blair, "just nothing more than that an old fellow and three young ladies brought her in a coroneted carriage, left strict orders about her being particularly attended to, and ordered the Captain to take her to any part of the world to which she wished to go; and if not going himself, to see her safely and comfortably off."

"Humph!—that's all?"

"Every morsel!"

"That girl, Blair, will be the death of me!"

"We shall both be buried in one grave, Rennie."

"She is a mysterious being from another sphere!"

"That's what she is, Rennie."

Here the Mate rushed upon deck, distorting his face, and making the most laughably-hideous gesticulations, crying aloud—"I certainly will never take any more of your most abominable stuff as long as I *live*, Mr. Turkey! I would not, if I was dying of the plague!—whough!—it's the vilest stuff!"

"Well, my good friend, compose yourself!—consider your disease!"

"Consider my disease!—if it was the cholera morbus I laboured under, and if another dose would save me, I would not have it—I would not, by G—d; that's what I wouldn't," cried the Mate, as he stamped the deck violently.

"Why, Mr. Mate?" cried Rennie, "what! *has Mr. Turkey* been doctoring you?"

"Doctoring me! he pretends I've got the—the—I forget the disease—'Fantods,' I think he called it; says it's fatal in a few hours, and he has got a specific. So he actually crammed down my burning throat—it's like a overheated flue this minute—he's crammed down a dose of the most devilish mixture ever man devised; I can feel it working round in my body like a fire-rocket—a d——d Congreve."

"Why, Dr. Turkey, we did not conceive you were a man of medicine: pray what have you given the patient?" inquired the Captain.

"Ah! that, Captain, is a most impenetrable secret; but if you will promise me not to divulge it, and only to use it for the aid of *suffering humanity*—"

"Whoop!" cried the Mate, who overheard Turkey's last word—"whoop!"

"—I will whisper the precious words."

"I promise."

"Well, then, come into the remotest part of the vessel; let not mortal ear but thine devour the invaluable secret. Put your ear down."

"Well, now, Turkey."

"You promise upon your honour not to tell it to any one for five minutes?"

"I do," smilingly said the Captain, bending his neck.

"Well, then, I gave him Croton oil, Cayenne pepper, oil of sulphur, and mustard!"

"Great God!" cried the Captain.

"That's what I say," calmly breathed Turkey, as he walked quietly off with his hands in his pockets—"that's what I say."

"A shark! a shark!—by all that's glorious, here's a shark!" shouted Blair from the taffrail. In an instant, the whole of the passengers who were on deck rushed simultaneously to the side to gaze upon the vagabond—the marauder—the detested tyrant of the deep.

"Suffer me," cried a voice which was immediately recognised as Mr. Turkey's—"gentlemen, suffer me for one moment to have what is vulgarly called 'a finger in the pie.' It glorifies me beyond measure to indulge in a little revenge. How do we know, 'brother sailors' (Boatswain Smith?)—yes, memory serves—how do we know whether this ravenous villain may not contain our very grandfather, or, at the least, the codicil to his will? Let us hook him—let us obtain him by hook or by crook, as the adage expresses it. Now, brother Moses, where's the pork? Sharks are no Israelites, though an Israelite may be a shark: it is possible they are cousins-german—yet they abhor not the flesh of swine. No—you have not sufficiently disguised that hook—that crook—may I be—really, you are very obligeing—thank you. Now, my hearts of oak, look out—'overboard he goes, Bill' (Old Song)." And as Mr. T. adjusted the delicious morsel, the action of overboard, &c. was immediately suited, and the piece of "glorious gammon" sank some four or five fathoms into the deep.

"Look, Captain! See, Rennie! There!"

"How green it looks!"

"What looks green?"

"Why, the pork."

"The shark looks greener. See—there! by Jove!—ah! ah!—Silence, all hands! silence in court—take that child out! Hush—(whispering)—Look at the pilot-fish—what 'knowing vons!' they go back to the caitiff! they tell him what a gandcamus! He swims nearer *and nearer*. Silence! on his side—yes, he is on his side—Waugh! Haul away—yeo, boys! he's got it!"

And true it was, the shark had slewed round upon his enormous beams, and, at one very easy gulp, down went the ten pounds of pork; and, to pursue the tale as Turkey described it to the invalids, as we copied it from his own Journal—

"The reptile bolted the fat—the salt and the deceitful; yes, down it went with a jerk and a dab like an auctioneer's hammer—dab! and there it was, like a bad debt; it stuck in the gullet, and then, as the poet sings, when he describes the very scene—see—Virgil—Virgil? no, it can't be the Georgics? Well, however, memory is not always to be depended upon—but *the* this or that poet thus chaunts (no doubt, when they had hooked a shark):

'And there arose from sea to sky
The wild farewell:

Then all was still, except the shriek,
The solitary flapping of the tail,
Of the vile rascal in his agony.'

But all were not still; for a rush, and a most determined one—a rush like unto that when a happy pauper, possessing the envied ticket for the more envied soup, essays, by all that appertains unto him—by his might and main, to gain his point—His point? a pauper *gain his point*! does memory serve? Yes, too severely. How oft have I, Tobias Turkey, witnessed the pale face of starving misery! how often have I seen the fluttering rags that the bitter breeze lifted, as in mockery, to show the skin-drawn bones beneath! Ay, often, too often, have I beheld the miserable of earth's most forsaken sons stand, hour after hour, with their spoutless jug, trembling in the falling, freezing shower, in the expectation of being able, at least, to secure a nourishless pot of charity soup. Oh, thou who canst feed upon thy quiet crumbs and thy easy cheese; how little does thy mind embrace the agony of the being who solicits his charity soup! *His* turn arrives from his shivering hours; he bears it, cold as a corpse, to his starving little ones; it is the donation of pride, or the hard-wrung drainings of a race who, in the pressure of adverse times, begrudge even the famished a fare."

But to return from Mr. Turkey's private MSS. to what became of the shark. Safely on deck was he produced, and no danger from him could again happen. "How he did," as Mr. Rennie observed when he gave him the final blow—

"How he lash'd his venom'd tail!"

Or, to quote a further illustration of what the fourteen-feet monster did when he lay his length upon the quarter-deck, we may collect the following from his tormentors:

"How he doth curvette and kick!"

(*Hudibras.*)—TURKEY.

"Perdition catch thy arm! The chance is thine;

But, oh! the vast renown thou hast acquired

In conquering!"——— (*Rich. III.*)—RENNIE.

"How many perils do environ

They who meddle with cold iron!"

(*Hudibras.*)—BLAIR.

"I would not enter [him] on my list of friends."

(*Cowper.*)—TURKEY.

"I think the caitiff hath a cho po co!"

(*Turkish MS.*)—TURKEY.

And so he was cho-po-co'd; for amongst the party who had captured him, not a morsel was respected. The fins adorned the cook's galley, as a present to some Chinese of distinction, should they pick one up at sea; the head was dissected by the Doctor for his jaws—the body was also his perquisite for the same interesting purpose; the tail was requested by an amateur; and a capturing indefatigable desired the backbone (which was quickly dried in the rigging) as a walking-stick;

part of his flesh was served on table, by way of a novelty—a sort of “caller haddy,” as the Scotch have it; and his stomach—his all-important stomach—was opened, with much ceremony and before numerous witnesses, by Turkey, who with an enormous knife threw daylight into the “tomb of all the Capulets”—but, lo! what did Turkey find in the “maw-solemn?” He found, what he keeps as a souvenir to this day—he found the last *bouilli-tin* that ever was issued; and by its means he was enabled to assure all those whom it might concern, that by the last bulletin things were in as undigested a state as ever.

CHAPTER VIII.

“Disguise it not, we have one human heart;
All mortal thoughts confess one common home.”—SHELLEY.

THE sailing in a vessel is, as we have upon a former occasion remarked, monotonous enough even under the most favourable circumstances. The little novelty afforded by the ship soon becomes most tiresomely familiar. The only thing at sea which wears well to the very last, and never diminishes in interest, is the all-charming dinner-bell. There is a halo around that iron-tongued marker of the flying day, and as he, hour after hour, solemnly announces that another sixty minutes of our little span has departed, we derive a consolation from our loss, that he has tolled—has been heard—has been understood; and though he is for another brief space to be left in repose, his voice has not sunk into echo ere the sound of the feast takes up the solemn knell, and turns solemnity to gladness. But eating and drinking must cease for a time—the excitement cannot last long, and *Ennui* again lays her melancholy spell around. To relieve this, and turn the vacant hours into profit and to cheerfulness, it was arranged amongst the passengers in the cabin of the “Ocean Queen,” that those gentlemen who had seen any part of the great drama of life, or who had actually played a strange part themselves, should, so far as it was agreeable to themselves, for the benefit and amusement of the others, sketch the same. This being agreed upon without one dissentient voice, the only question now remaining was the all-important one, “Who’s to begin?”

“Gentlemen,” said a youth, who had hitherto been remarkable for his melancholy manner and profound silence—who had seldom been out of his cabin, but whom we have already seen upon deck as the party discontented with the speed of the vessel,—“Gentlemen,” said he, “I will tell you my tale.”

“Good! very good!” cried the company, as they one and all drew their stools, or the trusses of compact hay (which were drying on the poop) around the speaker.

THE HISTORY OF THE MELANCHOLY GENTLEMAN.

“My history, gentlemen, is the history of but a humble individual; and if it fails to interest, I shall leave off at any part of the tale. It may possibly relieve the next dull hour, and will at any rate disclose

to you the miserable and unhappy being who arraigns himself before you. Pledge yourselves that you will not exercise my confession against me; let me at once assure myself that misfortune shall yet find a friend, and hopelessness and despair find comfort even in the breast of the passing stranger.

"It is necessary, then, that I begin my early life; for, as you may readily perceive, though young in years, I am about to show I am nevertheless old in misfortune; and if you detect in my narrative aught that can arouse a smile, 'twill be but the burst of sunshine through the eternal thundercloud, rendering all more sombre around.

"I shall, however, pass over my earliest life—the tedious and almost unprofitable time I spent at school. I did not learn anything there; but the little information I possess was picked up at later intervals, by my observation of men and manners, and by devoting a portion of my spare time to literature. By this means, I repaired what had been sadly neglected before; for although my father paid (what to him, and what, perhaps, was a goodly sum) thirty guineas yearly for my boarding-school education, yet I really cannot look back upon any one useful thing that I acquired. The system of the school was radically bad: we were, for instance, hurried through the arithmetic, from the beginning to the very end, without understanding the common Rule of Three; we went at the same railroad speed through our Grammar; and, as we stood in rows and parroted away passages from 'Enfield's Speaker,' or mouthing at a fearful rate 'To be, or not to be,' our intelligent master would be patiently wading through an old Chronicle, occasionally lifting off from its pages his spectacled eyes, to cry out 'Let me hear that again.' Thus we went on day after day, marvelling in our own minds what beauty there could possibly be in the twang-twang rhymes, or harder blank verses, of those people called poets. My account-book exhibited the handicraft of the usher; my letter, the all-important letter at the approach of the vacation, was scrawled and re-scrawled a thousand times, till, at length, by the formation of one syllable after another, upon the principle then in use called 'guiding the hand,' I turned out an epistle that for solid round turns and affectionate phrases to my 'honoured parents' was without any rival, but those of my schoolfellows, which in beauty of penmanship and expressions of tenderness were fac-similes. Well, I at length left the school to brave the world upon my stock of knowledge. I actually could recite an entire act of a play said to be written by Shakspeare; I could read the first fable of Æsop in Latin, and explain its meaning in English; and I could say the whole of my Catechism. What more could an 'honoured father' or a 'dearest mother' require? and what more could the busy world demand of so industrious a youth? I was consulted as to what profession I would embrace, and not being aware of the merits of one from the other, I selected that of medicine. To a practitioner at once I went, and I will tell you what influenced my choice for the Esculapian pursuit: (Heavens! would that the day had died in its birth!) I was at a neighbour's in the village in which I then resided, and as one of the family happened to be ill, the doctor,

as the surgeon was called, drove up to the garden-gate. I recollect the circumstance vividly. 'Oh, gracious goodness!' cried the young ladies, all in a breath, 'here's the doctor!' and forthwith there was a grand scuffle to arrange everything, as their old mother expressed it, in 'apple-pie order.' So it was; the chimney-piece was redolent with flowers, and though the dearest member of the family was at death's door, nevertheless all bore the appearance of extraordinary gaiety. The young ladies were, each and all, in the highest apple-pie order, and so was their mamma and the unhappy patient himself. The 'old gentleman' had his nightcap arranged knowingly on one side, and his hair brushed and oiled by the young ladies, that even he, ill, dispirited and disturbed as he was, must, nevertheless, be in 'apple-pie order.' Well, in strode the majestic and learned doctor, and forthwith he was duly ensconced in a large easy chair. I recollect well what passed. I remember it to the very letter. Down sat the doctor, and after waving a highly-scented handkerchief in the air, and taking several huge pinches of snuff, he thus began: 'Good morning, ladies; how's papa?'

" 'He has passed a miserable night—so restless, and his cough is dread——'

" 'What a shower we had just now! it'll knock the wheat about. So they say Miss Brown is going to be married!—well, wonders never cease. I hear strange things as I travel. Does papa keep as good ale as he had used?' I remember he had some fine old October when I was this way last.'

" 'Oh, dear, yes! doctor,' cried the mother of the young ladies, who sat quite absorbed with the presence and the contemplation of the doctor. 'Lucy, my dear, go fetch a tankard; here—skip. We alliss keeps a good tap. I dare say, doctor, as how you feels warmish anow?'

" 'The weather *is* sultry,' replied the doctor, blowing his cheeks to the magnitude of two melons; 'we may pronounce it *hot*!' The ale arrived, and the doctor forthwith despatched it. 'I dare say,' quoth he, as he set down the empty tankard, smacking his lips, and tapping Miss Lucy under the chin,—'I dare say I shall be obliged to hear strange news some of these odd days—eh!—eh!—I dare hardly lay a wager which goes first, eh? Ladies are like Members of Parliament; they often pair off—I—they pair off—that they do, mamma! You'll be sorry to lose them, but you *must be prepared*. Never drank better ale many a long day!'

" 'Do, doctor!' cried the old lady, her eyes sparkling with pleasure at the doctor's prophecy,—'do, doctor! Lucy, dear, go fetch a drop more beer—it'll never hurt you, doctor: you've had a long ride. Lucy, skip.'

Lucy skipped away for an additional supply of ale, which the doctor swallowed as gravely as before, concluding with 'Ay! ay! my ladies, I *know* what I *do* know—pretty faces can't be hid—I am a married man and getting old; but *if*—yes, I say *if*!—but now let's see poor papa!' Off go the whole party to the sick chamber. 'Well, how dost do.

poor soul?' cries the doctor, holding out his hand for the sick man's wrist, and solemnly looking at his watch. 'Humph!—put out the tongue—humph!—no sleep?'

" 'None at all,' groans the patient.

" 'Humph!—thirsty?'

" 'Very,' was replied.

" 'Humph!—you must have a little repose—shall see you again to-morrow—shall send you a draught to be taken every half-hour, and two bolusses at night—yes, tongue furred a good deal—humph!—humph!—humph!—Well, good day; you'll soon mend, we hope—oh, we'll soon set him up,' says the doctor, as he hurried off to his gig. 'I'll send him the physic with directions. Young ladies, take *great care* of yourselves. Good day.'

" No sooner was he fairly off than out broke all the three simultaneously: 'Now, Lucy, ain't he a delightful gentleman?' 'Oh! Jane, he is a sweet creature!' 'Such a good-humoured soul!' rejoins the old lady, 'not a bit of pride about him—a gentleman like that to sit and drink beer—he didn't care—he who drinks his port and sherry every day after dinner, and eats frosted fruit—he, you see, dears, can put his mouth to a farmer's brown joe, and make no fuss! But it's alliss the case with the thorough-bred gentility; they are not of the outscouts, not they—they know how to behave. How different, my dears, he is to some of these muckill-bred uns! *so* familiar.' 'Oh! he is, mamma, a dear, good-humoured gentleman, and *everybody* speaks well of him."

" Now, hearing and seeing all this, my mind was instantly inflamed, and all my early ambition was to be just such another gentleman as Dr. Howshe. From that very day I thought of nothing but being a doctor; it was my thoughts by day and my dreams by night—nothing would do but a doctor I must be, and at length the to me happy period arrived when I was to be conveyed to this very Dr. Howshe as his pupil. How my heart panted for joy! everything that earth held out to my desiring eyes was that day to be crowned. I was to be put upon the high road to become a gentleman and a doctor, even as great as the great Howshe himself, with whom I was immediately to associate. How vain my search after the hidden gem of happiness! I was elevated to the highest pinnacle of hope, and from my exalted position I soon began to look down upon the flowery fields I had left, and to cast a sigh, that came deep from my heart, after the joys that had now departed. I found that Dr. Howshe *at home* and Dr. Howshe *abroad* were as different as midnight from noonday: that the gay, the charming, the all-polite Dr. Howshe, with whom I had been so enraptured at the village, was *not* that easy, good-humoured, all-joking creature I had imagined; and as it regarded his mightiness, his grandeur, and his all-enchancing presence, he sank from the former before I had been on intimate terms with him one solitary half-hour; and as to his all-enchancing presence, I could totally and for ever most willingly have dispensed with that with far more alacrity than I dispensed my medicines.

" My kind and amiable father, by the industry of many years, had accumulated a small pittance, upon which he subsisted in his decline of

life. Out of this he sliced off the small sum, 'a mere nothing,' as Dr. Howshe termed it—'simply a nominal £200'—for fee of apprenticeship; and for this my parent indulged the hope that I should instantaneously be treated as a member not only of a liberal profession, but of the family. A dream—a pleasant passage of thought! I was called upon forthwith to sweep out the surgery, I was degraded to the lighting of the fire belonging to the same; I was head counter-scourer, pallet-polisher, bottle-arranger, duster, and washer. I was, to be sure, frequently employed upon what I might call, in theatrical language, the 'legitimate drama;' but year after year passed away—year after year, I say, for I remained but two, and at their expiration I still found myself sole manager of the tinder-box and broom. To be sure, I had long since been taught the art and mystery of carrying out medicines, and the deep secret of so arranging them in capacious pouch to prevent their breaking—for, lo! I could not bring myself (in spite of my humiliating flourishes with the broom in private) to carry a basket of bottles like a pop hawker in public.

"I come now to my final catastrophe, beginning and ending with *my zeal*!—for really I had moments of pure and unadulterated zeal for science, even as much in its carelessness for torture as the dog-crimping Magendie himself. One morning, whilst pounding, till my arm ached again, an enormous mass of 'pill klier comp.' I thought 'Why am I always pounding and pill-rounding, and bottle-carrying? This is not the practice of chirurgery; and as I am not intended as a physician, I aspire higher, for I have repeatedly heard Howshe exclaim, "Any old woman would do for a physician"—now, knowing this fact, I'll stick to surgery, and I will perform an operation upon a *living animal*, if I am driven to the necessity of cutting a toe off the cat.'

"At this moment of furious resolve, in came, lonely and quietly, a workhouse pauper—(O that he had never been born!)—and behold, he held a handkerchief to his jaw: he had come for the purpose of having his offending tooth extracted. My eyes sparkled with joy as I politely informed him that the Doctor never drew teeth—he hated, like most others of his tribe, the operation—but that I was an exceedingly clever operator (God forgive me!) and that if he would entrust himself under my hands, I would whip out the grinder in a wink. To my joy, the unsuspecting wretch (O that I had never beheld him!) sat quietly, at my desire, upon the floor, in order, as I told him, that I might not cause a quarter of the usual pain. Down he sat, and I forthwith furnished up the instruments. 'Now,' said I inwardly,—

'Now is the winter of my discontent
Made glorious summer—by this pauper.'

I consoled myself with the reflection that, after all my obscurity, now was I about at once to emerge—I was about to perform a *surgical operation*! I was a dentist about to be in full practice.

"I bade him open his mouth. I examined the tooth! it was an enormous one, to be sure, and very hollow; but out it must come. So, seizing my lancet, I cut deeply at the root. I, even to this day, flatter

myself that no living artist could have lanced that man's gum better than I did—and I am confident that it would have been equally out of their power to have lanced it *deeper*. I fixed the terrible key upon the tooth, and straining with my uttermost might, I found I could not stir it in the least degree. Another, and a most awful strain—the pauper uttered a deep groan, and his eyes, like mine, were nearly starting from their sockets. Still, I kept on my unrelenting screw, now with one arm, now with two. At length, from the agony the miserable man was enduring, and my perseverance in force, he gradually rose from the floor, inch by inch, as a spectre is said to rise slowly from a tomb. At last, he arrived at too inconvenient a height for my exertions; for I expected, by perseverance, to gain my point by actually tiring out the holding muscle, and so getting out the tooth the moment it relaxed. However, the unhappy patient contrived to rise; to meet him, I also elevated myself to my utmost erect position—then on my very tiptoes. Still, the gaunt pauper seemed to grow; I actually appeared to draw him out like wire. I desperately mounted a low chair. It was too high; I descended, having still my hold of him as tight and unrelaxing as ever. Though the sweat by this time poured off my brow, and the patient's face was red and bloated as a rising sun, he began to place cautiously one foot before the other in cramped-march round the room. As he advanced, I retreated. There he was, with his head firm on one side, as if it had been nailed to his shoulder. I could at that moment have died upon the spot, of vexation. The man could bear it no longer. I cried, 'Help me, pauper!' for I began to hate him, and in my heart wished him safe back, tooth included, at his workhouse. In pure desperation, worked up to frenzy by agony, he seized my arm with both his fleshless paws, and, with a tremendous wrench, out came the tooth. 'Thank Heaven,' cried I, 'here it is at last!' showing the enormous fangs to the ought-to-be-overjoyed man. He looked at it a moment with his great grey eyes; then hastily rubbing the blood off a part of it with his thumb, he roared out, in a voice of Stentor, 'I'll be d——d if it ain't the wrong 'un!'

"Imagine my feelings at this moment—imagine me, after all my labour, hearing this announcement! Vainly did I endeavour to poke a pin into any part of the tooth to induce the furious man to believe it was a vile one—the obstinate pin would not enter the smallest cranny; side, bottom, inside fang, outside fang—all in vain, whilst he continued his roarings—'That's my only good tooth—the only one that met on all my jaw! I'd rather you'd a pulled 'em all out than that 'ere!'—I attempted to console him, that he would do quite as well without it; that—(I was going to say paupers required no teeth)—it had every symptom of speedy decay. The more I argued, the more he soliloquised about his loss. I knew not what to do. I would give him gin—I had none; money, ditto. A bright idea struck me—I gave him a large wine-glass of pure spirit of wine, and, in order to soothe him, I poured in some laudanum. 'There,' cried I as I held it out to him—'there! drink that, my friend; and though you have lost your tooth, some of these days I will make you ample amends; but now swallow

this—it is for the benefit of your gums.’ The bewildered man tossed it off at a draught; but the scene that followed, how can I describe it? The burning spirit, getting upon his mangled gums, produced the most excruciating torture, making the former misery a positive pleasure in comparison. He put both hands to his mouth—he blowed, and he gasped for breath—his big, wild, glassy eyeballs rolled round in their orbits, or fixed glaring upon me, as that of the serpent upon its prey; he could endure it no longer—down upon the floor, amongst the blood, regardless of ranges of bottles, he kicked and he plunged, as a galvanised dead man by the application of the most powerful battery. I expected all was soon to be over with him—that these were his last struggles; for I doubted not that nature, under such violent exertion, must soon yield.

“Never was any hapless and bewildered lover of science in a more helpless or unenviable condition. If I could have called upon the earth to swallow me up, pauper and all, I should have been happy, and had my shame and my misery sealed for ever. But to find myself the murderer of a fellow-being!—to slay him, too, under false pretences!—when he had reposed confidence in me, seated himself wishingly at my desire, opened his ill-fated mouth—(O that it had never drawn breath!)—and, oh! horrors! to come to me to be slain! I could not hide the corpse; for now it lay motionless, and the eyes were firmly shut—no doubt closed for ever! I looked for a moment upon the result of the employment of the last half-hour: what a change had that short period wrought! How lucky should I be if it were in my power now to make it appear that the man died in a fit! But then there would be an inquest on the body; there would at once be shown his lacerated jaw! But suppose he died immediately of apoplexy after the extraction of the same? But they would open his body, and there were spirits of wine—and, oh! horrid to think of, *laudanum*! I rushed out of the surgery, hurried with fearful strides up to my room, seized a pen, and wrote the following hasty note, which I, as soon as I had changed my coat, left upon my table.

“TO DR. HOWSHE.

“The unfortunate man who lies dead upon the floor came to me in the agony of toothache, and insisted upon my extracting it; I did so—he then fell down in a fit—I gave him some spirits of wine to revive him; but he groaned heavily, and ceased to exist. I assure you the man died of his own free will. But I cannot remain any longer under your roof, as from this day I forsake so horrible a profession.

“In haste,

“11 o’Clock, Monday.”

“YOUR LATE PUPIL.”

“Having so far arranged matters, I ventured one more look into the ill-fated chamber of death, and to my horror, there still, and stiffer than ever, lay the body of my victim the pauper.

“I sprang from the house, and ran headlong at the top of my speed from the accursed spot. Getting at length upon the mail, I was borne from the scene of my misfortunes fifty miles ere I dared to venture one timid glance behind.

"Scarcely knowing whither I flew, I stopped when the mail had arrived at its journey's end, and found myself to my great comfort near a relation of mine, of whose character I had heard little else than that he was a quiet, unassuming gentleman. Had I heard him represented as a wild man, as an unchained wolf, I should have at that moment sought his protection, or prayed him at once to devour me. Towards his mansion I at once directed my trembling steps, was received with astonishment, which, in order to appease, I at once forged a most serviceable lie, which I adhered as adhesively to as my bewildered imagination, confused by my horrible deed, would allow. Although this excellent relative entertained me with wonderful hospitality, yet he would frequently say, 'I cannot for the life of me understand why you travel with so little baggage; you say you determined to pay me a visit—now you must intend it to be a very short one, as I remark you travel with less luggage than the generality of gentlemen.' Thus did he search me; at length, unable to bear it any longer, considering myself looked upon with an eye of suspicion by the whole household, I seized an opportunity when the old gentleman was alone, and disclosed to him the fact of my having deserted my profession—one that I abhorred—one that was more than any man with nerves short of iron could endure, and I ended by imploring him to allow me to remain his guest for a short time, to recruit, as I said, my shattered constitution. He lent a willing ear to all I had stated, and at the conclusion, (for I did not breathe a word about the defunct,) merely replied with an arch smile—'I'll be hanged if I did not say so; I'll be hanged if I did not guess as much—well, well, I'm glad to see you, my boy; stay as long as you like, and make your life happy. You shan't be a doctor—you shall be a farmer, that's what you shall be.' Thus did the good-natured old gentleman pour oil into my wounds, and aloe down my throat, and I grew more and more comfortable every day, and almost forgot my melancholy affair altogether, when, lo! one morning after I had been about a week or ten days in my retreat, I was struck dumb by hearing my uncle read in the *Weekly Times* the following:—'Suspicious Death.—One of the most singular circumstances we have ever had the painful duty to record occurred on Friday last, in the town of ———. From what we can learn, a pauper from the workhouse at ——— left early in the day for the house of Dr. ———, to get, as he said at parting, a painful tooth extracted. He had been absent several hours, when the doctor himself came to the workhouse, requesting a bier might be sent, as the man lay dead in his surgery. The doctor could give no account how he came by his death, as his assistant was at the time absent; but he supposes the man must have expired in a fit. What makes the case more singular is, the body appeared to have recently had a tooth extracted, as the mouth was half choked with blood, and a large grinder and the tooth-keys lay by the side of it on the floor. The circumstance has quite disturbed the town, from the mystery that hangs over it. The assistant, who, it appears, must be acquainted with the fact, has not since been heard of. A jury will sit upon the body to-morrow, (last Monday,) when, we trust, this

singular and suspicious event may be properly accounted for.' Upon hearing this, my knees tottered and rapped hard one against the other; the cold sweat of guilt oozed upon my brow; the piece of food I was masticating stuck fast in my convulsed throat; the room swam round: I remember no more. Upon recovering again the use of my faculties, I found myself stretched upon a bed, my face swimming in vinegar, and all my relations around the bed. Yes, there they were, every one with their strained eyes fixed full and inquiringly upon me. I lost all command, and as I sank once more upon the pillow, I cried out in agony, 'I am the wretch!'

THE SERPENT OF MARTINIQUE AND ST. LUCIA.

FROM THE FRENCH OF DR. RUFZ.

(Continued from p. 316.)

It is not in the neighbourhood of man's abode that the large serpents are to be found; if by any accident they do approach, they are soon betrayed by their own misdeeds and receive immediate punishment. At Martinique the largest *Trigonocephalus* is to be met in deep ravines of the forest. But what is to be understood by a large serpent? what are its dimensions, its length and breadth? Many persons affirm that they have never seen serpents of more than six feet in length. According to M. Blot, their ordinary length is from four to five feet, and sometimes as much as seven feet, and from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 inches thick; some have been known to measure 3 inches in diameter. Moreau de Jonnès states, that in 1808, one was killed by Captain Desfourneaux, on the Morne Colomb, which measured 6 feet, 6 inches, and 6 lines. Father Duterte says, that, in his time, it was common to see the serpent of 7 to 8 feet long, and of the thickness of a man's leg. Father Labat, as usual, goes farther: he says (vol. v., p. 47), "One thing that incommoded the colony, was the immense quantity of vipers which overran the land, some of them being huge monsters, measuring about 25 feet in length and $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter." In another place, he talks of having had a narrow escape from a serpent, the body of which was more than 9 feet long and 5 inches thick. I have measured, at M. Dumont's place, a serpent, killed in the quarter of Parnasse, which measured 7 feet. In our day, it may be said, that the serpent is rarely found to exceed 6 feet in length.

Here, serpents may be met with everywhere, from the deep forest to the saloon. On approaching the summit of Mount Pelée, M. Moreau de Jonnès killed an enormous serpent.* But the favourite haunts of the serpent are the cavities of rocks, and old hollow trees overgrown by parasite plants, as also the banks of rivulets and fields of abandoned or

* Mount Pelée stands above the town of St. Pierre from 800 to 900 toises. According to Humboldt, there are no serpents on the Cordilleras further than 13,000 to 14,00 toises: for instance, none are found on the plains of Santa Fé de Bogota.

neglected sugar-canes: M. Blot adds, the nests of birds, where the serpent squats itself after devouring the eggs or young birds, and bird-cages, fowl-houses, and old dilapidated walls, as being the usual resorts of the serpent. It crawls in swamps under shelter of the mangrove. In short, the bushes, brushwoods, all ill-kept fields, may be pronounced its dominions. It makes no hole for itself, as do other animals which live in holes, but usurps the occupation of those already prepared by the rats and land-crabs, quite certain of not being dislodged. It is seldom that the serpent is to be found in the towns, unless carried thither. I have often heard mentioned the case of a person who was bit one night in the middle of Caylus-street, after a heavy fall of rain, which had washed down a quantity of rubbish and fragments, and probably the serpent along with them. In the same street, whilst conversing one day with Mr. G., I observed something resembling a piece of rope on the ground, which proved to be a dead serpent; and I learned that it was the spot where the grass for Mr. G.'s horses was usually deposited. And very recently *Les Antilles* (Martinique journal) recorded an accident which befel Mr. D., who was bitten by a serpent while throwing into the rack some green grass that had been brought for his horses. The serpent glides pretty often into gardens and houses bordering on the country. In the country itself, it is found in the roofs of megass-houses, ajoupas, and often in the interior of dwelling-houses. It is said that the serpent appears generally more timid in such places, as if to dissimulate its presence. It is certain that we seldom hear of persons being bitten in their houses. Out of a thousand cases which I could cite, the following is remarkable:—A young negro ran to my brother one day, much scared, announcing a serpent to be dancing in a room close by. My brother went to the spot, and found a serpent about 3 feet long struggling to get up through a crevice in the floor. This flooring had been renewed some five or six months before, when the ground had lain open and exposed for five or six days; the serpent may have effected an entrance during that time, probably in pursuit of a rat, and got shut in by the laying of the floor; so that it must have been walked over with impunity during six months. One thing to be wondered at is, that, with all the passion for witchcraft and mischievous practices which is said to prevail here, the serpent is never adopted as an instrument of vengeance. It will be seen that to procure this animal alive is a matter of no great difficulty; but I have never heard of its being introduced into houses for any wicked design. It required all the blackness of modern romance to imagine the horrible fable of Ata-Gull, who directed a serpent into the nuptial chamber of his young bride to produce her death.

The serpent is in no wise inactive: it roves a good deal, not as a tourist, but in the character of a robber; it moves, however, but to sojourn awhile in one place, where it may be found at different intervals, and this it is which admits of its being hunted. The duration of its stay depends on the facilities presented for procuring its prey. As if with a consciousness of the horror which it inspires, the serpent prowls only by night, when it may be met everywhere, even in the middle of

roads that are most frequented by day. The eye of the serpent, as we will show on treating of its anatomy, is not provided with the membrane peculiar to that of other nocturnal animals.*

Like all animals, the serpent has its preference for particular places of resort, and chooses those that are cool and shady. I have been told by a negro, that the serpent shifts its abode with the changes of season; fixing on the summits of hills in warm weather and during rainy seasons, and descending into the ravines in fine cool weather. In times of great drought, the serpent is known to seek the borders of rivers.

The *Trigonocephalus* is not a gregarious animal. In Martinique we find none of those caverns crowded with serpents which are stated to be in Mexico and Peru; nor do we find serpents twined together as are the vipers in Europe during winter; but in the season of their coupling, it is not uncommon, when a male or a female is killed, to find its mate about the same place; this is the only social lien amongst the serpents. Sometimes the serpent abides on the branches of trees, though not so often as on the ground, since it is less of its head than of its footing that it could be careful there. It is nothing uncommon to find young serpents in the foliage of bushy-headed plants, seeking there a refuge from the numerous causes of destruction which threaten them. A negro of the Macarty estate, on which there are many cocoa-nut trees, has told me that serpents have been at different times found within the clusters of cocoa-nuts on the trees, whither they must have gone in the pursuit of rats. If the serpent climb to the top of the cocoa-nut tree, it may say with the squirrel *quó animo ascendam?* Indeed, some persons pretend that no obstacle is insurmountable to the serpent, and that it will glide up any perpendicular wall.

The principal food of the serpent is the rat; it forms the prey which I have most commonly found in its stomach; I have taken as many as six rats at one time out of a serpent's stomach. Rats being great destroyers of canes here, I have been told that the Chevalier de P. preferred to have serpents in his canes, and that he good-humouredly styled them his troopers. The same remark has been repeated to me by different planters, certainly not as the expression of a cruel sentiment, but as showing that the bite of the serpent may easily be guarded against during the operation of cutting canes, and particularly as supporting the opinion maintained by some persons, as we shall demonstrate hereafter, that in the majority of cases the serpent's bite is without serious consequence. A planter of distinction at Guadaloupe, Mr. M. M., perfectly conversant in the agriculture of both colonies, has assured me, that under corresponding circumstances as to bushes and precipices, the rats in Guadaloupe caused ten times more damage on a piece of canes than in Martinique. Hence, we see one useful purpose to which the serpents may be applied; not that the Guadaloupians should desire to possess them even at that price, but it shows that the serpents have

* At night, with the simple starlight, the scales of the serpent, even when the animal is of a dark colour, throw out a remarkable silvery glitter. It was by this that I once discovered a coil in the middle of the road.

their good parts, though it remains to be known perhaps how to employ them. Oh, man! when thou presumest to find fault with anything in the six days' creation, as appearing opposed to thy interest or contrary to thy wishes, rememberest thou not who it is that made it? It is God!—the good, the Almighty God—God, that cannot do wrong;—Adore and seek.*

The serpent is also said to feed on birds; its mode of fowling must be truly curious: instead of going in pursuit of the birds, it must attract, charm, and fascinate them by a marvellous sort of attraction; and for this purpose, it would only have to place itself under some tree, with its mouth open and eyes fixed upon its victim, the poor bird being obliged to descend from its lofty perch and tumble into the living gulf! People generally, as well as poets, talk of this prodigy as if they had witnessed it; but Mr. Baxton, a learned American naturalist, who has studied the character and habits of the rattlesnake, to which also this particular property is attributed, denies it altogether. He has seen, he says, "battles between the serpent and the black woodpecker; but these were real fights, in which the bird defended the entrance of its nest against the reptile, as the hen defends its chickens." Mr. Baxton saw in this nothing more than the effect of maternal love, that unfearing and reproachless affection which forms the most admirable feeling even of the human breast—simply an admirable devotedness. There is never, however, an observation so badly made as to be entirely devoid of truth. It is commonly known that some birds will, at the sight of certain animals, throw out cries of distress as if to call for succour: here it is the whitebreast, the sissie, the island nightingale, and the domestic fowl itself; but often they are found to make the same noise at a cat, a dog, or any other animal hostile to them. M. de Chateaubriand, who, by the charms of his genius, has contributed more than all others to the credibility of this tradition, attributes the fascination to fear: "Fear," says he, "disables the legs of man; wherefore might it not cripple the wings of a bird?" All animals dread the serpent: the horse starts and trembles at its sight, the cattle turn off and take to flight; the cat, bold and cunning as it is, dares not attack it: there are some dogs more daring; I have heard recounted by more than one huntsman the stories of admirable combats which have tended to increase the more my fondness to this faithful animal. Father Feuillé states, that in the woods of Martinique he was assailed by an enormous serpent, whose victim he must have fallen but for the interference of his dog, which

* The following has been communicated to me in a letter signed Joseph:—"I perceive that in your inquest you recite a popular story regarding the introduction of the serpent in Guadeloupe. Permit me to recount what was told me on the subject by the Baron de Clugny while he was Governor of Guadeloupe. A planter of the quarter of Lamentin, whose canes had been ravaged by rats, fearful of being ruined by such devastations, and knowing that the serpents made a prey of rats, went over to Martinique in quest of the well-doing reptile, and let a few couples loose in his canes. But he was not aware, that once the serpent had got its fill of rats, it would resign itself to their digestion. So that (added the humorous and caustic Governor) all the serpents that were brought to Guadeloupe died of indigestion!"

sprang on the serpent, and notwithstanding several wounds which caused its blood to flow, the dog never relaxed until it had torn the reptile into pieces. Fortunately its master could dress the wounds with the juice of the plantain tree, and the noble creature was saved. Why then is not advantage taken of this courageous instinct? why are not dogs trained up to hunt the serpents? In Europe it is by man that the dog is taught to hunt game—the hare, partridge, stag, or wild boar. Who does not remember having seen some old keeper followed by his canine pupils to the work of the sporting field? (Oh, Chalons! Vitry! Beaulieu!—Memory, avant!) Methinks I hear resounding yet the voice which recalled Diana to order.—To prevent the dog from wandering, there must be employed the whip, the collar—nay, the gun itself—the whole a penal code. To bring up a pointer properly to its business, it requires at least three years of hard training—nearly as long as to form a lawyer or a doctor of medicine. I have not the least doubt, that if the necessary trouble were taken, pointers might be trained into intrepid hunters of our island serpent.

Before swallowing its prey, the serpent, it is said, overlays it with saliva to facilitate its passage. The disposal and formation of its mouth are such as to admit thereinto bodies greatly disproportioned to the dimensions of that cavity. The jaws, composed of moveable bones, separate to an immoderate extent; the throat and windpipe enlarge in proportion, so that respiration should not be impeded by the presence of voluminous lumps of food, nor the animal stifled; the opening of the trachean artery is near the entrance of the mouth, behind the under jaw, without epiglottis, and remains constantly open. It is for this reason that the *Trigonocephalus* is capable of swallowing large fowls and turkeys. Lacépède says that it eats cats, and that young pigs have been found in its belly. M. Morin has assured me that he took an opossum from the stomach of a serpent.* Several instances of a similar kind have been mentioned by other persons. M. Bellevue Aubain has related, to such as would listen to him, the story of his having seen a young goat extracted from the stomach of a serpent. The following is still better:—It has been reported, that on the Gentil estate, in the woods of Cabaret, a brood of young turkeys having disappeared, some serpent was suspected of the theft; a search was accordingly made, which led to the discovery of the serpent lying under a rock, surfeited and helpless—

——Lateque repletus
Ingluviem immensi ventris——
——Nigro ructabat in antro.

* One of my negroes brought me, one day, one of the largest of the serpents. It had begun to swallow a good-sized opossum; the whole hind quarter of the opossum still hung without the mouth of the reptile, while the fore quarter and body, which were in the œsophagus, had been already softened. The whole was thickly plastered over with a viscous mucus. The jaws of the serpent were distended to an enormous degree, and its natural length, which might have been about six feet, was reduced about one-half. The animal's body was of the size of a man's leg, and only the tail retained its ordinary dimensions. The fact of the serpent shortening in length during the process of digestion has been long known.

The serpent was killed, and being taken by the tail and squeezed, was made to disgorge a dozen of the young turkeys. This story would be no bad appendix to that of the labour of Mother Gigone. I repeat it as it was told me.

Be this as it may, it is generally admitted, that the serpent, after swallowing considerable prey in this manner, undergoes a protracted and painful digestion, lapses into a sort of digesting sleep, and while in that state may be trod upon with perfect impunity. Some add, that while in this state the serpent emits a strong odour which often leads to its discovery. I have dissected a good many of the *Trigonocephalus* : in its fresh state I have not found it to throw out any other scent than a sort of raw fishy emanation ; and even while it hath some rat half putrified in its stomach, no disagreeable odour is exhaled from the animal. It is true, after some days of putrefaction, the stench of the dead serpent is really insupportable, *et sui generis*. There are negroes who pretend they can always scent out the serpent.* This may depend on the variable powers of the smelling organs of man. We know what marvellous things are told in this regard about savage tribes. It were most desirable that such was really the case here, that persons could be enabled to find out the serpent by the smell.

If we proceed now to the analysis of the serpent's digestion, we shall not be astonished at its being so slow.—The serpent swallows its prey without any preliminary preparation in the mouth, either by mastication or insalivation. I have not found in this animal any large salivary glands ; and its teeth are so small, it is evident they cannot serve the purpose of mastication ; they are but instruments to fix the food, direct it to the throat, and prevent its return ;—hence these retainers are all laid backwards in an oblique direction to the throat. Properly speaking, there is no real deglutition with the serpent ; the alimentary mass is not gathered together and directed by the tongue ; between the alimentary stuff and the tongue comes the tracheal artery, which separates them. The tongue, so to speak, is nothing more than a nervous thread, and is but a simple organ of taste. If it is a rat that has been swallowed, it is urged slowly down the œsophagus, in such a manner that its head reaches the orifice of the pylorus and is almost digested, while the tail is extended along the œsophagus and is hardly touched. The stomach of the serpent appears to be without *cardia*, which accounts for this organ being capable of so great dilation at the expense of the œsopha-

* Most certainly the peculiar properties of those serpents which are known to reveal their presence by the scent that proceeds from them, are not possessed by the *Trigonocephalus*. Naturalists notice the existence of small glands near the anus of the former as being the source of such emanations, as is the case with the *Moschus moschiferus*, which secretes the musk. I have ascertained that these glands do not exist in the *Trigonocephalus*. This analogy may have been falsely drawn from the rattlesnake, which is one of the reptiles whose approach is revealed by the odour which it exhales. According to other authorities, *stercus serpentum bene olere, facile concedi postest*. Does this diversity of opinion depend on the varieties of nature, or the fruitfulness of the human imagination?

gus. The pyloric orifice is on the contrary well defined, and shows that there are two distinct periods in the digestion of the serpent, as in that of other animals.

I have read and heard that when the serpents swallowed a hairy or a feathered animal, the hairs and feathers not being digestible, were thrown out by a sort of regurgitation. I have not had an opportunity of testing this fact myself, but I consider it important.

The serpent also feeds upon lizards, frogs, small crabs, but not the large crabs we eat—indeed some authors look upon the large crab as a destroyer of the serpent. “*Cancris serpentes ad Ephesiam metropolim forcipibus arripiunt et ad piludes tranare conantur.*” “The crabs,” says Elian, “near the town of Ephesus, seize the serpents with their claws and drag them into the swamps and marshes where they live.” More than one person has signalled to me the crab known by the name of *cirique* as a successful warrior against the serpents.

I have in vain multiplied questions with the object of learning how the Trionocephales master their prey—whether they envelop their victims in their folds to squeeze them to death, or kill with their poison and then swallow at leisure. The latter conjecture appears to be the most probable, although many persons are of a different opinion, holding that flesh which has been poisoned by the venom of the serpent cannot serve for food, but would be instinctively eschewed by the animal. We shall proceed, in a subsequent part of our inquiry, to show how it has been proved by repeated experiments that the venom introduced in the digesting conduits of animals do not produce the same effects as when introduced under the skin, in the cellular tissue, by the sting of the serpent itself. Even though the poison swallowed by other animals should prove mortal to them, it does not follow that it must be likewise the case to the animal which secretes it. There exists between the fluids of one body, a relation of consanguinity which renders them more tolerable one with the other. It frequently happens that we find fowls dead from the sting of the serpent; and, as the serpent is not at all afraid of the fowl, it is probable that the latter is only stung for the purpose of being afterwards devoured by the reptile. If any are found dead and not devoured, it may be accounted for by supposing—what happens to most hunters—that the fowl sometimes escapes wounded and is lost. In fact, it has not been demonstrated in the Hygeian world, that the flesh of poisoned animals is to be feared, as has been vulgarly imagined. This opinion is a good deal narrowed by well-considered facts; and we have seen Governments twenty times endeavouring to obtain an absolute solution of this point. “There are persons,” says Lacépède, in speaking of the rattlesnake. “who pretend that animals killed by its bite may be eaten with safety, in the same manner that savages live upon the game they kill with poisoned arrows.”

Is the serpent herbivorous?—I have already stated that I only found rats in the stomachs of those serpents examined by me. I also sometimes found in their throats small leaves quite distinct, and in their feculous matters I have recognised plaits of undigested leaves; but no kind of seed, fruit, or herb is known to be sought by the Trionocephales.

Naturalists, however, describe several species of serpents as being herbivorous. The serpent eats everything that hath life. It is even said that in countries where both exist, it gets the better of the porcupine, notwithstanding its armour. But does it also feed upon the flesh or carcass of animals not killed by itself?

The solution of these questions touching the food of the serpent, appears to possess the highest interest; for if there could be discovered any particular aliment which is sought after by this animal, and which might be poisoned as a bait, it would be one of the most powerful means that could possibly be employed for the destruction of the reptile: serpents would then be as easily got rid of as rats, wood-lice, and other injurious vermin.

After showing the serpent to be so voracious and so great a glutton, it is but fair to allow that in other respects it presents the greatest example of temperance which exists in the whole animal kingdom! It bears a total abstinence from food for several months! (Attend well to this, ye who think that three days' fasting would kill you!) It is true, that after filling its stomach, with such prey as we have described, the serpent could not require to eat every day; it takes time for digestion; and it being an animal of cold blood, this process is much slower with the serpent than with animals of a warmer temperament. This fact, touching the patience of the serpent in bearing hunger or continuing abstinent, is placed beyond doubt by numerous experiments made without any difficulty. For instance—let a serpent be confined in a demijean: the captive animal will take no aliment, but, falling into a consumption, will proudly resign itself to death.

From the testimony of many serious persons, I am forced to admit that the serpents devour one another; hence half-swallowed serpents have been several times drawn from the belly of others—the devoured being often as large as the devourer. "I once killed a serpent four feet long," says Mr. X., "and hung it on a bush; on the following day it was not to be seen. My people soon afterwards killed another, when, what was my astonishment to find in its body my serpent of the previous day! *Homo homini sæpissimè serpens!* I know certain men who are perfect serpents on that point, without going to the regions of the anthropophagi to look for them. It is after a fight that the conqueror thus eats the vanquished;—for the serpents fight amongst themselves exactly as we do—sometimes for a female, at other times for an object of prey, or (who knows?) perhaps for a province—desiring to reign alone over some field or forest, so natural is the passion of despotism!

Pro cæsare pugnant
Dypsades et peragant civilia bella ceratæ.
LUC. PHARS. IV. ix."

Since we are on the warfaring part of the serpent's life, we cannot pass silently over the conflict which is stated to take place between it and the couresse, the common snake of the country (*Coluber cursor*). According to tradition (I dare not ascribe it to actual observation), there exists an antipathy between the couresse and the serpent, which renders them mortal enemies. The victory rests invariably with the couresse,

notwithstanding the inequality of arms. There are to be met here persons who will recount these combats as faithfully as ocular witnesses. One good lady, who is not credulous, has related some fine things to me on the subject. It is generally on the borders of a river that the hostile meeting takes place: the couresse waylays the serpent, seizes it by the middle of the body and drags it into the stream; or else it is seen to quit the combat for the purpose of rubbing itself on some kind of grass, which heals its own wounds, revives its strength, and enfeebles the serpent. Moreau de Jonnès, who knows all, goes so far as even to indicate these marvellous plants by their botanic names: they are the milky stalks of the *Euphorbia hirta*, *Euphorbia pilulifera*, *Euphorbia graminea*. The combat is followed by a banquet—the couresse, small as it is, eats up the serpent, large as it is. It has been seen.—Livy is not more precise when he relates the combats of the Horatii and the Curiatii; nor the Bible that of David and Goliath. Fortunate antipathy, were it but true! the couresse would be for Martinique the antidote of the serpent. Man is disposed to believe that, by a kind of antagonism in nature, the remedy is always placed by the side of the evil.

“The serpents have for enemies, the ants, which devour it when it has recently changed its skin; also the *clibros* (boa) and *couresses* (snakes), which kill the serpent by striking it on the head, and then swallow it. During this exterminating battle, which would appear to hold out the victory to the serpent, each time that the couresse receives a wound, it runs off and rolls upon the leaves of the cotton or pied-poule, and then returns to the charge, and fights until the enemy surrenders. Then the couresse swallows up the serpent head-foremost.” (Beaucé's *Notice sur Sainte-Lucie*.)*

(To be continued.)

THE CORAL REEFS AND THE RECENTLY-THREADED MAZES OF TORRES STRAITS.

I saw the living pile ascend
The mausoleum of its architects,
Still dying upwards as their labours closed.—
Slime the material—but the slime was turned
To adamant by their petrific touch:
Frail were their frames, ephemeral their lives,
Their masonry imperishable. All
Life's needful functions—food, exertion, rest—
By nice economy of Providence
Were overruled to carry on the process,
Which out of water brought forth solid rock.
Atom by atom—thus the mountain grew
A coral island, stretching east and west;
Steep were the flanks, with precipices sharp

* M. Duchatel writes me—“I have seen the combat of the couresse and the serpent: the latter always retreats, whilst the other seizes and endeavours to stifle it in its folds. When bitten, the couresse runs to a grass called *cheveux békés*, upon which it rolls itself and then returns to the fight.

Descending to their base in ocean gloom.
 Chasms few and narrow, and irregular,
 Formed harbours safe at once and perilous—
 Safe for defence, but perilous to enter.
 A sea-lake shone amidst the fossil isle,
 Reflecting in a ring its cliffs and caverns,
 With heaven itself seen like a lake below.
 Compared with this amazing edifice,
 What are the works of intellectual man—
 His temples, palaces, and sepulchres?
 Dust in the balance, atoms in the gale,
 Compared with these achievements in the deep,
 Were all the monuments of olden time,—
 Egypt's grey fanes of hieroglyphic grandeur;
 Her pyramids would be mere pinnacles,
 Her giant statues, wrought from rocks of granite,
 But puny ornaments for such a pile
 As this stupendous mound of catacombs,
 Fill'd with dry mummies of the builder worms.

So sings Montgomery, who leads his readers to suppose that the formation of a coral island is the work of myriads of polypes, just as a honeycomb is that of a swarm of bees. But the bee builds her cell, and the bird her nest, according to instinct. They are architects according to plans which they cannot vary. There is nothing of the kind in the construction of coral rock; in fact, the polype has for this purpose neither plan, nor labour, nor skill: the coral being no more its work than feathers can be said to be the work of a bird, or that wonderful machine, the human hand, to be the production of its possessor. Coral is a calcareous exudation from the surface of a polype which secretes lime and carbonic acid from the sea, and it petrifies under the action of the wave, pursuant to certain general laws, according to the species. The formation of rock, in short, is the condition of coral life.

Coral reefs are principally formed by a few species of the genera *Porites*, *Astrea*, and *Millepora*. These reefs are classified under three distinct heads, viz.—

1. Lagoon islands, or atolls.
2. Barrier, or encircling reefs.
3. Fringing, or shore reefs.

Lagoon Islands.—Many intertropical islands, both in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, present the appearance of a vast ring of coral rock, called an Atoll. This ring is usually low, sometimes verdant, and with a dazzling white beach on the inside. On the outside it is washed by the foaming ocean; and it contains in its middle a calm, bright, green, salt-water lake, sometimes more than forty fathoms deep. This circular Atoll, or Lagoon Island, increases only on the outer edge, where it is unceasingly lashed by the waves. Other kinds of coral, which are not reef-forming polypes, grow in the inside lake.

Barrier Reefs.—Conceive an island like New Caledonia to be in the middle of the salt-water lake of a vast Atoll; then the outside ring of coral rock will be termed its Barrier Reef. But, as the coralline animals which occasion such extensive changes in the ocean do not thrive well but in the vicinity of the Torrid Zone, we have the tropical coasts of

vast islands, such as New Holland, often girt at a small distance by a snow-white line of breakers, crowned here and there by a verdant islet, and marking the barrier of coral that separates the smooth waters of a lagoon-like channel from the waves of the open sea.

Fringing or Shore Reefs differ from Barrier Reefs, in extending from the shore in comparatively shallow water where the sea is not turbid, and in not having within them a broad channel of deep water. But it is easy to perceive that these three kinds of coral formation pass into each other. Thus the outside of a Barrier Reef may often be called without impropriety a Fringing Reef, and a Barrier Reef is often the same as the coral ring which environs the lagoon of an Atoll.

The most ordinary explanation of the remarkable form of an Atoll was, that it was the crater of a volcano which had risen from some unfathomable depth of the ocean. But the enormous size of such submarine craters was too preposterous to be credited; and the precipitous slope of both sides of a Barrier Reef was not to be explained so easily, since it was difficult to comprehend why the coral polypes should not grow in all directions, provided the foundation rock was stable, and the animals could live at all depths. Besides, New Caledonia and many other islands presenting Barrier Reefs are composed of geological formations, that set aside every notion of their being volcanic craters. Mr. Charles Darwin (the scientific companion of Captain Fitz Roy in his voyage of discovery), seeing therefore the manifold objections to this old theory, has lately proposed another explanation of the facts. According to him, there are many large tracts of ocean, without any high land, interspersed with reefs and islets, formed by the growth of those kinds of coral *which cannot live at great depths*; and the existence of these reefs and low islets in such numbers, and at such distant points, is quite inexplicable, except on the theory that the bases on which the coral reefs first became attached, slowly and successively subsided beneath the level of the sea, whilst the polypes continued to grow upwards. Mr. Darwin therefore supposes a mountainous district, thrown up by volcanic action or otherwise, to be situated on a subsiding area. "If this subsiding area be under the ocean, the summit of the mountain may appear an island more or less conical. Now, as the island sinks down either a few feet at a time or quite insensibly, we may safely infer from what we know of the conditions favourable to the growth of coral, that the living masses bathed by the surf on the margin of the reef will soon regain the surface. The water, however, will encroach little by little on the shore; the island becoming lower and smaller, and the space between the edge of the reef and the beach proportionally larger. The width of the reef and its slope, both on the outer and inner side, will have been determined by the growing powers of the polypes under the conditions (for instance, the force of the breakers and the currents) to which they have been exposed. It is evident, that a line drawn perpendicularly down from the outer edge of the new reef to the foundation of solid rock, exceeds by as many feet as there have been feet of subsidence, that small limit of depth at which the coral polypes can live; the coral, as the whole sank down, having grown up from

a basis formed of other corals and their consolidated fragments. If, instead of such an island as we have supposed, the shore of a continent fringed by a reef had subsided, a great Barrier Reef like that of the north-east coast of Australia would have necessarily resulted, and it would have been separated from the main land by a deep smooth-water channel, broad in proportion to the amount of subsidence, and to the less or greater inclination of the neighbouring coast land."

It is obvious, however, that to make the published theory of Mr. Darwin apply to the Great Barrier Reef of New Holland, two facts are necessary to be proved; namely, 1. This asserted slow and gradual subsidence of the north-east coast of Australia; and 2. That the reef-forming polypes cannot live beyond a certain depth from the surface of the ocean. Captain Blackwood, and the officers of his expedition, had kindly promised a friend to make such experiments as might bring these two assertions—the truth of which is so essential for Darwin's theory—to the test of observation; but I regret to say, that various obstacles to such researches have occurred, so that the matter still remains *coram judice*. I subjoin an extract from Captain Blackwood's letter, as it contains other interesting information:—

"H. M. S. *Fly*, 23rd September, 1814.

"Going to Singapore.

"We found the stone of Raine's Island good, abundance of shells for our lime, and a sound foundation for the building. Having these necessary materials, we went to work with forty stout hands, and within four months we had forty-five feet of masonry run up in the shape of a tower; having its diameter at base thirty feet, ditto at top twenty-seven feet. Thickness of the wall at base, five feet three inches; thickness at top, three feet. This tower we surmounted with a substantial circular roof fifteen feet in height, making a total of seventy-five feet above low-water mark (including the height of the rock on which the tower is based), and, therefore, it is plainly visible at a distance of fourteen miles from the masthead of a ship. At this distance, according to measurement, we saw it constantly.

We have been fortunate enough to have had no accident, and the prisoners lent us by Sir George Gipps worked admirably. Ince was Governor of the island, and in his glory among birds, fish, and shells. But, I regret to inform you, that we could not make out our experiments on the depth of living coral, owing to the difficulty, and indeed impossibility, of encountering the surf and finding a convenient spot for experimenting. We have, however, laid down a safe track for the ships that enter the Barrier Reef by the beacon on Raine's Island, to sail in towards the main land; and I believe, therefore, that now very few accidents are likely to happen, the high road and milestones being so accurately laid down. I could not get to New Guinea, for it was better to do little and do that little well. We are now becalmed under a vertical sun, with our head turned towards Singapore, where we go to refit; and then, the commencement of next year, we repair back to Torres Straits—examine New Guinea and the adjoining islands, and hope to reach Sydney about June or July. All on board are well, but nearly tired of coral reefs. Nothing very new or various in the way of Natural History has been obtained this season, for the great part of which, indeed, we have been at anchor sixty miles from the land. We have had some good astronomical observations. An occultation of Venus was clearly visible with a pocket telescope at noonday, in 11 deg. South; and I believe our results have been so satisfactory in their agreements, that we may consider the beacon on Raine's Island as placed in long. 144 deg. 7 min. East, and in lat. 11 deg. 35 min. 50 sec.; for this being an important point to determine, much pains were taken towards that result."

It is the obvious interest of England that the Australian Colonies should be wealthy and prosperous. She consulted, therefore, her own objects in despatching an expedition to explore Torres Straits; but we are, nevertheless, deeply obliged to her. Other expeditions of discovery have been sent out for the general benefit of mankind, and for the sake of increasing the common stock of human knowledge; but the mission of Captain Blackwood was more peculiarly for the advantage of the Australian Colonies. Every one who has paid the slightest attention to the subject must be convinced that ere long a regular steam navigation will prevail between New South Wales and India—that our principal communication with the mother-country must take place through this channel, and that even now the dangers of Torres Straits are as nothing in comparison with the perils which formerly attended every attempt to thread that labyrinth of coral.

This, after all, is a beautiful world, did we know how to enjoy it. Accompany me in imagination to some island in Torres Straits. Look at that rock on which the heavy surf is breaking; how regularly it is covered with minute sculptured stars, in the centre of each of which you may discover a pore. Watch the minute atom of animated translucent jelly which marks the pore, and see how it extends its tiny arms on every side; on the slightest touch it retracts them within the hole. That is the animal which occasions all those difficulties to the path of the lord of the creation over the tropical seas. By means of that gelatinous polype* vast islands of rock are continually in process of formation amid the stormiest waves of the ocean. Indeed it is only where the surf breaks with its greatest force that the reef coral polype can be said to thrive. It hates a calm—your true reef polype having, like other performers of great deeds, a thorough contempt for the ease and tranquillity which so often render officials fat, sleepy, and apoplectic. —*Correspondent of the Sydney Atlas.*

SKETCHES OF GRENADA SCENERY.

To the Editor of "Simmonds's Colonial Magazine."

SIR,—The following "Sketches of Grenada Scenery" were originally written for the pages of "The Grenada Magazine and Monthly Miscellany," printed in this island some years back by Mr. William E. Baker, the then Editor and Proprietor of "The St. George's Chronicle." Considering that they are worthy of a better fate than that which they obtained in the pages of what proved a mere ephemeral publication—the Magazine not having existed beyond its third number—I forward them to you, in the hope that they may be favoured with a place in your "COLONIAL MAGAZINE," where they may meet the eye of some of the many who occasionally visit our shores in those "leviathans of the deep," the steamships of the R. M. S. P. Company. Our scenery is not generally known, and these "Sketches" will be interesting to the

lover of the picturesque, should such be among our visitors, as they may prove to them what your many "Handbooks" are to our Creoles.

A CORRESPONDENT.

Grenada, October 1845.

EVERY part of the world, however small or isolated, has its peculiar sights and wonders, which may be explained, "something worth seeing, and perchance surprising."

Though few, according to the general remark, come to the West Indies to seek fortunes, yet many, in search of wealth or money, as much as those connected with the public service, make an occasional "tour amongst the Islands," as it is technically called. Now, for the benefit of all so circumstanced, into whose hands these Sketches may chance to fall, I beg to state that, with the exception of the Pitch Lake and Mud Vulcano in Trinidad, and that at present dormant in St. Vincent, "the Grand Etang" in this island is "the greatest lion" in the tour.

The general appearance of Grenada, near or distant, is prepossessing; and the approach to St. George's, the principal town, from either side, is beautiful. From the north, after passing the romantic rocks and islets forming "The Grenadines," the towering evergreen hills and cultivated vales, intersected by tree-crowned ridges descending towards the sea and terminating in abrupt and picturesque precipices, ever varying in appearance as the vessel advances, raise ideas of the sublime, soft, and beautiful, and give a foretaste of the pleasures to be derived from a closer inspection. From the south, the scenery, though tamer, is more soft, and has aptly been compared by Coleridge to the true Italian.

The appearance of the town itself, built on a ridge and sloping on one side towards "the Carenage" or Harbour, and on the other to the sea, is inviting;—the objects most attractive being the Established Church, with its light and handsome spire; the Presbyterian Kirk, with its massive and elegant tower; and Fort George, crowning the extreme point. All who land, even after a monotonous or long voyage, should not be so anxious to disembark as to make the attempt in "the Bay," should the surf be no obstacle, for, rowing round the Fort into the Carenage, by the short delay they will be gratified with the appearance of the large merchant vessels moored in line, the regularity of the well-built wharves, and the magnificent buildings occupying them. The better part of the town is to the eye entirely English, and, with the exception of the pavilioned roofs, destitute of chimneys, the traveller might fancy himself in a British town in the very finest day in July, although the period of his visit may be in December.

From St. George's there are but three roads leading to the interior. The first passes through "the Square" and "Fish Market," (and, though the greatest thoroughfare, is not *particularly* inviting,) along the sea-beach in a northerly direction. The second, called "Lower Montserrat," scarcely superior, leads to the south-east; and the third, by far the most preferable, towards "Government House" and "Richmond Hill." The situation of the former, which is a handsome and commo-

dious building, is delightful; commanding a view of part of the Town and Harbour, and the beautiful vales of "Tempe," "Beaulieu," and the upper part of "Beausejour," terminated by the mountains on either side of the Grand Etang. Richmond Hill rises abruptly to a height of 800 or 900 feet, crowned with comfortable barnacks and extensive fortifications, promising protection, or frowning defiance, as the case may be.

To visit the Grand Etang, I would recommend the last-mentioned road, turning off to the left at the upper gate of Government House. This will place you at once on classic ground—"Mount Parnassus" being on the right, and "Tempe's" verdant vale before and below you, with, I presume, the "Peneus" meandering through it. Our Tempe, however, is not very poetical, but is certainly a very pretty sugar-estate—the works, mansion, and negro-houses forming as fine a picture as you are likely to meet with in the course of your peregrinations. Those massive buildings for the manufacture of sugar, and that dear-delusive fluid—rum, form a pleasing contrast with the snug, comfortable thatched cottages of the negroes, rising row above row, like the grades of an amphitheatre, and half concealed by the orange, the mango, and the broad-leaved plantain. We must, however, *descend*, and proceed on our journey, along a road safe but rugged, passing "Mount Gay" with its fantastic bridge, "Snug Corner"—not a misnomer, and "Vendomme," where the spicy clove of the East entwines with the bright-red-leaved and yellow-podded cocoa of the West. If you are not "pressed by Time," make one turn towards "Annandale," and take up a position opposite to that romantic cascade, formed by the river Soulier in passing into its valley. At this moment, a giant of the hills has been swept down in the torrent, and stands erect in the waterfall, stripped of its leaves and branches—a blackened trunk; the water, as it froths and leaps from point to point, gives so perfect an idea of the motion of the tree, that you might imagine an endless monster of the American Sea-snake genus making his ascent.

To resume:—On crossing the limpid and cool Soulier, you arrive at the region of the arboraceous fern, which must be seen to be fully appreciated, and take leave of cultivation, darting amongst the aboriginal tenants of the hills. The ascent from the fifth milestone, on the bank of the stream, to the sixth, is very abrupt and fatiguing; but before you gain "the mountain's top," there is an acute turn of the road; at this point take your stand, and declare where you have ever seen a more imposing view. The whole valley of Beausejour appears at your feet; "Point Saline," in the distance, stretches to the south-west, its eminences apparently levelled, and bearing no fanciful resemblance to a huge crab's-claw; "Mount Moritz" lofty cone is in the centre, and to the left, the perpendicular and tangled hill overlooking Vendomme. In your immediate vicinity the crimson blossoms of the *Costus* and *Pitcarnia* almost eclipse the less-paraded beauties of, the smaller *Rhexias*, whilst all around the bamboo waves its colossal plumes. The descent to "the Post," about half a mile, is gentle in comparison; and here "the Lake" breaks suddenly on the view. The extent is not great; I should suppose about three miles in circum-

ference: so it cannot be that, nor the appearance of the surrounding scenery, though grand, that strikes the imagination so forcibly. But as I am describing, not moralising, I shall continue.

At "the Post," you will find the officers' quarters and barracks of the Colony Rangers: the former, neat and substantial; the latter, formed of the produce of the vicinity, being wattled and thatched with grass, and very comfortable and safe where sudden atmospheric changes are so frequent. There is likewise a tavern, but not so well supplied as to warrant any party who esteems the good things of this life—and I know of no excursion more likely to call the stomach into active operation—to go wholly unprovided. From a small eminence to the east, (in former times a telegraphic station,) a magnificent view opens: the highly-cultivated plains stretching from the base of the mountains to the sea—the rock-surrounded harbour of "Grenville"—and the Grenadines, with their conical hills, far in the distance. The extent of forest, never yet subjected to the woodman's axe, is another good text for the moralist.

I here end this my first excursion. To me, it has been one of pleasure: and it is to be hoped that it will prove so to my readers, as it is not improbable that we may take the road again.

VIATOR.

METEOROLOGY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

FOR FIVE YEARS.

THE following are some general results obtained from a careful review of the Meteorological Register kept at the South Head of Port Jackson, Sydney, from its commencement to the end of 1844, a period of four years and nine months.

BAROMETER.

A comparison of the monthly and yearly mean atmospheric pressure during the above period, computed from all the periodical observations collectively:—

	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844
January	<i>no obs.</i>	29·708	29·747	29·820	29·742
February....	"	·777	·880	·372	·864
March	"	·936	·904	·916	·845
April	29·905	·792	·826	·962	·879
May	·907	·893	·853	30·067	30·071
June	·882	·982	·871	29·916	29·980
July	·987	30·004	·856	·778	·875
August	·863	29·987	·921	·955	·752
September ..	·816	·863	·743	·751	·811
October	·876	·849	·708	·813	·849
November ..	·855	·784	·738	·765	·770
December ..	·821	·762	·813	·771	·876
Yearly means	29·878	29·861	29·822	29·865	29·859

Annual mean pressure calculated for each period of observation :—

		9 A.M.	Noon.	G.P.M.	
1840	April to December	29·892	29·879	29·863	
	January to May ..	29·836	29·818	29·809	
1841		8.30'	2.30'		
		A.M.	P.M.	Sunset.	9 P.M.
	June to December	29·905	29·881	29·874	29·899
1842		29·843	29·806	29·805	29·832
1843		29·887	29·849	29·853	29·873
1844		29·879	29·843	29·845	28·869

The maximum and minimum of atmospheric pressure in each year occurred as follows :—

1840	{ Maximum	..	30·270 on	July 3
	{ Minimum	..	29·270	November 11
1841	{ Maximum	..	30·340	August 31
	{ Minimum	..	29·300	February 27
1842	{ Maximum	..	30·210	June 28, July 15
	{ Minimum	..	29·210	March 20
1843	{ Maximum	..	30·350	June 9
	{ Minimum	..	29·213	December 5
1844	{ Maximum	..	30·344	August 1
	{ Minimum	..	29·224	September 21

From which it appears the extreme range of the barometer, during these five years, has been 1·140 inch, and its mean range 1·0594 inch ; or in round numbers about one inch and one-sixteenth.

Mean pressure summer and winter, *i. e.* upon an equal division of the year, and taking April to September inclusive, as winter months :—

	Summer.	Winter.	Difference.
1841	29·803	29·920	0·117
1842	29·798	29·845	0·047
1843	29·826	29·905	0·079
1844	29·824	29·895	0·071

TIHERMOMETER.

Monthly and yearly Mean External Shade Temperature, calculated from all the periodical observations collectively, during the years—

	1840	1841	1842	1843	1844
January	<i>no obs.</i>	75·05	70·79	71·49	69·36
February....	„	75·41	70·92	69·70	70·43
March	„	71·03	69·07	69·40	69·06
April	67·23	67·66	61·46	63·62	60·31
May	61·56	60·91	57·46	59·83	58·66
June	51·96	55·19	54·55	55·01	53·81
July	54·32	52·98	55·51	53·99	52·54
August	57·22	56·24	53·45	54·61	55·06
September ..	62·87	59·09	59·90	57·78	57·06
October	68·16	62·76	63·47	61·07	61·12
November ..	70·02	69·81	67·93	67·38	63·54
December ..	72·33	69·75	68·19	68·88	66·88

Mean of Year 63·186 64·656 62·72 62·73 61·49

From the foregoing table it appears that the mean temperature of April and October, which approximate to mid-autumn and mid-spring, may be considered as nearly as possible the mean of the whole year. In England the month of October has been found, from a complete series of hourly observations, kept during the years 1833 and 1834, to furnish a mean temperature nearest to that of the year. This observa-

tion holds in all these years except 1840, when May and September are found to give the nearest mean temperature. But the cause of these two colder months giving in that year the nearest to the mean of the year is attributable to, first, the absence of three summer months' observations in the latter calculation; secondly, to the hours of observation (nine, noon, and six,) then adopted, producing a result below the medium temperature of the twenty-four hours. The year 1842 shows a depression of temperature below 1841 of about two degrees, which chiefly accrues during the first five months, some of which discover a decrease of five degrees; and this is the more remarkable, inasmuch as the periods of observation in those months of 1841 were nine, noon, and six, which, as before said, furnish a medium temperature below that of the twenty-four hours. The year 1844 likewise shows a decrease of more than one degree below 1843, and this depression of temperature extends through all the months, except Feb., Aug., and Oct.

Annual mean internal and external Shade Temperature, calculated for each periodical observation; also the wet thermometer:—

1840—(April to December.)				
	9 A.M.	Noon.	6 P.M.	
Internal....	63°15	68°60	68°02	
External ..	61°76	65°46	62°33	
Wet	59°32			
1841—(January to May.)				
Internal ..	71°206	73°68	72°078	
External ..	69°15	72°026	68°86	
Wet	66°124			
(June to December.)				
	8 30 A.M.	2 30 P.M.	Sunset.	9 P.M.
Internal....	60°44	66°02	63°18	61°52
External ..	60°077	66°35	60°54	57°71
Wet		61°054		
1842.				
Internal....	63°53	70°18	65°24	64°47
External ..	61°02	67°58	62°04	60°26
Wet		62°57		
1843.				
Internal....	63°57	67°31	65°66	65°37
External ..	61°87	66°82	61°98	60°40
Wet		62°01		
1844.				
Internal....	62°84	67°20	64°93	64°19
External ..	60°83	65°66	60°50	58°96
Wet		60°346		

The max. and min. of Shade Temperature occurred as follows:—

	Maximum.	Minimum.
1840	90 deg. on October 9	45 deg. on July 20
1841	97 „ on November 24	42 „ on July 3
1842	{ 101 „ on February 8 102 „ on December 1 100 „ on December 12 }	39 „ on July 1
1843	90 „ on October 12	{ 45 „ on August 3 & 31 44 „
1844	98 „ on December 28	42 „ on July 24

N.B.—That these extremes of temperature are not obtained from a register thermometer: consequently, although the maxima may be taken as pretty correct, the minima cannot be so considered.

The following are the mean external shade temperatures of summer and winter, on a division of the year as before :—

	Summer.	Winter.	Difference.
1842	68°390	57°055	11°335
1843	67°987	57°473	10°514
1844	66°731	56°245	10°486

Total quantities of rain registered as fallen, with the respective number of days :—

	Inches.	Days.
1840 (9 months)	49°65	108
1841	76°31	142
1842	48°32	137
1843	62°78	168
1844	70°67	157

Total 307°73 inches in 712 days,

out of and comprehending a period of 4 years and 9 months, 1,736 days.

Two extraordinary falls of rain have occurred during this period, viz., one of 20·12 inches, on 29th April, 1841, during heavy squalls from E.N.E.—E.S.E.; the other, 20·41 inches, on 15th October, 1844, wind between S.E. and S.W.

EXPLANATIONS.

Elevation, 240 feet above mean tide level.

Internal Thermometer, attached to the barometer, having the ball exposed.

The diameter of the barometer tube cannot be furnished, but the instrument is of the same standard as the barometer in use at the Paramatta Observatory.

The *External Thermometer* is in a southern exposure, five feet above the ground, placed against the wall in a small open screen of wood, which protects it from direct and indirect radiation, humidity, &c., and at the same time admits a free circulation of air.

Wet Thermometer.—This observation is obtained by evaporation on the bulb of the instrument, which is moistened *pro tem.*; and the extreme of depression after evaporation, is registered; the difference between the wet and dry thermometer indicating the condition of the atmosphere as respects humidity.

The *Rain Gauge* is cylindrical, six inches diameter, having a funnel lid, with sides two inches deep, then decreasing to a tubular hole of half an inch diameter, to prevent as much as possible evaporation and other decrease or extraneous augmentation; it is placed on the ground in a perfectly open situation.

The hours of observation were, 9 A.M., noon, and 6 P.M., up to May 1841; subsequently, 8°30, 2°30, sunset, and 9.

It is necessary to explain that the barometer used up to July 1843 ranged lower than the one subsequently quoted from, by about ·27 of an inch; consequently, throughout the foregoing tables, all the observations prior to that date have been raised to the standard of the latter instrument.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE LIBERATED AFRICAN ESTABLISHMENT AT ST. HELENA.

BY GEORGE M'HENRY, M.D., C.M.G.,

MEMBER OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF PARIS, LATE SURGEON TO THE
LIBERATED AFRICAN ESTABLISHMENT AT ST. HELENA.

(Continued from p. 266.)

CHAPTER V.

Diminution of Sickness---Arrival of the Louiza---The Portuguese on board---Death of nine Africans, in consequence of the practices of Fetishism, during the Passage--My Removal from the Julia---Distribution of the Slaves who arrived in the Louiza---The new Overseers and Matrons, Huntley and his Wife, and Conolly---Mrs. Huntley's Death---The Surf---Arrival of the Marcianna---More Officials put on the Establishment---Stephen Pritchard's Census---Formation of a Station at Rupert's Valley---Arrival of the Minerva---Captain Alvarez---Plan projected by the Portuguese Crew to carry off the Minerva---Resignation of Overseers, and Expiration of the Quarantine.

THE sickness which had been introduced by the "Julia" had declined considerably in violence: the appearance of the people who survived, for many had died in consequence of their diseases, was improved in every respect; they were cleaner, fatter, and stronger, and might now have been employed in some occupation, had there been anything for them to do in Lemon Valley besides carrying off the provisions and water to the beach, to be conveyed from thence by the station-boat to the "Andorinha" for the use of the sick and convalescent there. The limits of the station did not include any ground fit for cultivation upon which they could have been employed, with the exception of two little plots that belonged to Serjeant Brown and a widow Renton, a woman of ninety-five years of age, who preferred remaining in her cottage in the precincts of the station to removing, and these two plots we could not expect them to concede to us. To obviate, however, the natural indulgence of the Africans in laziness, they were kept exercised as much as possible in sweeping the paths about the Battery, cleaning their dwellings and washing their clothes, and were encouraged to amuse themselves in singing and dancing every afternoon. These occupations were exceedingly useful in infusing a little activity into them, and the evening amusements contributed largely to the restoration of their lost spirits.

The smallpox had scarcely been extinguished a week, when a fresh importation was brought in by the arrival of the "Louiza," captured by H. M. brig "Brisk." In combination with the infectious disease, the usual catalogue of maladies existed that constitute a slave-vessel a real, not fabulous, Pandora's box. It was the first slaver I had seen that was full; the "Julia" had been emptied of her living cargo before

my arrival at the station. There were 340 slaves on board, and the vessel's burthen did not amount to 150 tons.

It was my duty to take the muster of the people on board the "Louisa," in order to give a receipt to the prize-officer for the number. It is not perhaps generally known, that for each slave taken by the British cruisers, the captors are entitled to a bounty of £5, paid by the Government after their adjudication by the Mixed Commission, or Vice-Admiralty Courts. It is, therefore, necessary for the captors to be provided with a certificate of the number of slaves on board when the charge of them is given up by the prize-officer to the Colonial Authorities. It is a very difficult task to arrive at a correct muster: although aided by the British crew, who assembled the people on deck, and arranged them on each side of the ship, the males separated from the females, yet it was a long time before I ascertained the exact number. This, however, I at length accomplished, by ordering first the girls to descend to the hold, tallying them off by tens; then the women with their infants, and those who were childless; then the boys, and finally the men. Thus was procured, not only the correct amount of the whole, but the precise number of either sex, and the exact distribution into adults and children. While engaged in this occupation, I could not help remarking how shocking it was to contemplate the multitude of wretches gathered on every side around me, who were so closely crowded together, that they appeared to form one dense black mass, organised and endowed with motion, but seemingly with only those symptoms to indicate the possession of life.

Besides the British crew, there were about ten Portuguese, consisting of the captain and seamen, who navigated the "Louiza" previous to her capture by the "Brisk," and one runaway soldier from the fort of Benguela. The Portuguese were not such desperate-looking fellows as might have been expected from their calling: in spite of Lavater's doctrines, experience must acknowledge that as much guilt and sin may be concealed by a composed and amiable countenance, as exhibited by a grim and austere visage. The soldier had been attacked with the bilious remittent fever of the coast, and being disgusted with a military life, and afraid of the unwholesome climate, had escaped on board the "Louiza," and concealed himself in the fore-castle among the sailors until they were far out at sea. He was a regular spectre, as emaciated as any of the sick Africans, and as yellow as bile could make him. The Portuguese cook was a little squat man, dirty and greasy, the very *beau idéal* of his trade, in which he was busily engaged when I made his acquaintance: so intent was he in stewing up fish, oil, and garlic together, that he must have thought it the noblest occupation of man to be compounding indigestible messes for the human stomach.

On board there were two other objects more interesting than the Portuguese. These were two little Negro boys, each about three years old, who had lost their mothers during the passage. To them Mr. Roberts, the prize-officer, had been particularly kind; and the urchins were so sensible of his protection being necessary to preserve them from injury from the rest of the Africans, that they were continually

about him, testifying their fondness by many little caresses and manœuvres. They were afterwards better known to the officials of the Establishment by the English cognomens of Bobby and Billy, and were always sprightly children and much beloved. They were subsequently shipped off to British Guiana; and it is to be hoped they extremely tender age would be a safeguard to them against the cupidity of the master they would find there.

An extraordinary circumstance connected with the rites of fetishism, showing the intense dread which it inspires, occurred on board the "Louiza" during the passage to St. Helena. Two negroes, rather advanced in age, and of a repulsive appearance, had, in the midst of the sufferings which they themselves in common with the rest experienced, contrived to inflict the still greater torments of this terrible superstition on their weak-minded companions. They had so worked upon the imaginations of their comrades, that nine, it was averred, had died in consequence of their diabolical practices. They were accused of employing incantations, of putting some deleterious powder in the food and water, and of even having recourse to a sharp-pointed nail, with which they pricked and stabbed their victims during the night, as they were then unperceived.

I had enjoyed my comfortable quarters on board the "Julia" about a fortnight, when a boat, rowed by two Lascars of the Marine Department, arrived at the station with a letter from the Custom-house, ordering me to evacuate the vessel, and give up the charge of it to them. They were commanded to remain on board night and day, and to prevent any person from approaching it. At the end of a month their confinement on board was to cease, and the vessel was to be brought to James' Town to be sold there by the order of the Vice-Admiralty Court for the benefit of the captors. Ousted out of my lodging a second time in less space than a month, I resolved to encounter with a magnanimous resolution my hard fate, and to put up with the accommodations allotted to me on shore. I got hold of an iron cot (bedstead) that had once belonged to the old St. Helena Regiment, and was now lying, in all the honours of rust, in a dilapidated outhouse. This piece of furniture, the only article of the sort that could be procured within the limits of Lemon Valley, was dusted and cleaned up, and conveyed to the fisherman's hut, my future dwelling. The cobwebs were brushed off the walls, much to the discomfort of whole troops of spiders; and the loose sandy floor was swept and watered, quite as much to the annoyance of myriads of fleas. They, together with legions of rats and mice, and a few lizards, had taken undisputed possession of the tenement, and were ejected with considerable trouble, and not without paying me repeated visits for a long time afterwards, which I could have with pleasure dispensed with. A couple of rush-bottomed chairs, and a little ricketty table, which I had borrowed from Dirty Doll, and which, when I went to write upon it, became so agitated that I feared at times it had been taken with convulsions, completed my stock of furniture. There were so many broken panes in the windows, that if I ever laid my papers in the room with-

out a stone over them to keep them from moving, on the occurrence of the slightest wind they would immediately assume the property of animal organisation, and flutter and dance about, as if they had been haunted by the ghosts of the murdered *Araignidæ* and drowned *Colcoptera*.

The arrival of the "Louiza" had disconcerted the regulations respecting the disposal of the "Julia," and its removal to James' Town and sale were postponed. The Lascars shared the same fate as myself—were ordered to move out, but were nevertheless permitted to return direct to town without undergoing the three days' purification at Old Woman's Valley, which certainly appeared something like an infraction of the quarantine laws. On the departure of the Lascars, a party of Royal Engineers were despatched, with all the materials necessary to put a between-deck in the "Julia." As they brought me no letter to inform me what they were sent to do, and as I had received stringent orders to permit no boat except the daily ration-boat to approach the station, I commanded the party to move off. After remaining three hours undetermined whether to proceed on board the "Julia," or return to town, they at last embraced the latter alternative, and complained to the authorities of my treatment towards them. Upon this, Captain Alexander, chief officer of the Engineers, accompanied by the Collector of Customs, came down to the station, and having informed me of the object of the workmen's visit, and of that visit having been sanctioned by the Governor, I of course could no longer obstruct them in the performance of their commission: still, in obeying the commands of my superiors, I could not help remarking that the present measure was fraught with danger, inasmuch as the permission accorded to the Engineers to return to James' Town directly after their work on board the "Julia" was finished might be the means of propagating smallpox there. This was the second instance of a violation of their own instructions respecting the quarantine regulations by the Colonial Authorities. Fortunately no injury resulted therefrom. It could be wished that the same impunity always accompanied the observance of their commands. It was not, however, so; and an instance will be adduced hereafter wherein their wilfulness was the source of much misfortune. This strange system of uncalled-for severity in the one case, and capricious relaxation of the regulations necessary to be observed in another, was what was complimented with the name of quarantine, more of the inconsistencies of which will be related in a future part of this work.

The plan I took to dispose of the slaves on board of the "Louiza" was the following, and I had much satisfaction in proving its superiority over the system adopted in the case of the "Julia," and of ever afterwards finding it effectual in arresting the progress of smallpox, and extinguishing it in the space of less than a month. The people on board were divided into three classes:—1. Those who had been attacked with the disease at some former period, distant from the present, and who bore on their persons conclusive testimony of the fact from the existence of pits and marks; 2. Those who had never had the disease; and 3. Those who were at the time affected with it. The first

class was permitted to remain on board the "Louiza," it having been well scrubbed, and purified with the copious sprinkling of chloride of lime. Having had the disease before, they ran little risk by their detention there. I would, indeed, have preferred, after having them well washed and cleanly dressed, to have brought them on shore at once, as I afterwards did in similar cases, always without incurring danger; but at the present time there were no accommodations on shore for them. The second class I removed on board the "Julia," which had been well cleaned by the Lascars, and fitted up with a between-deck by the Engineers, for their reception. Under no circumstances except those of necessity would I have allowed them either to remain on board the "Louiza," or to go on shore. By detaining them on board, they would have continued to be exposed to the disease; and by locating them on shore, they would have carried the infection and spread it amongst the people already there. As any cases of smallpox broke out among them after their removal to the "Julia," they were immediately detected by me at the daily muster and inspection which I held on board of each ship, and were forthwith sent to the "Andorinha." As to the third class, they were immediately transferred to the Hospital-ship. By these simple means, the fresh cases that occurred were very few, only thirteen in number, although there were as many as thirty-eight smallpox patients on board at the arrival of the "Louiza." The mortality likewise that took place from the disease on this occasion was very inconsiderable, amounting to only eight. The contagion was soon lost among the people located on board the "Julia," for the disease was always discovered in its premonitory stage, and carried off to the "Andorinha." This was a happy state of things, that out of 340 persons amongst whom smallpox raged with so much violence at the beginning, so very few new cases and so trifling a mortality should occur, after the arrangements I have described were adopted and carried into operation.

There were now two vessels, the "Julia" and the "Louiza," both filled with negroes, in addition to the "Andorinha," to look after, and my duties increased in proportion. Two overseers and a matron were sent by the Collector of Customs, who was, indeed, an excellent judge of the qualifications requisite for the offices, but most unaccountably generally chose persons who were perfectly destitute of them to fill the situations in the Liberated African Establishment. William Huntley and his wife were installed in office on board the "Julia," and John Conolly was put in charge of the "Louiza." Both these men had been soldiers in the old St. Helena Regiment belonging to the East India Company. Conolly had been a drummer, and was not much liked, so report said, in that capacity by his comrades. He debuted in his new employment by getting drunk and keeping so for three whole days; and his conduct was so insolent, that I was under the necessity of reporting him. Huntley entered upon his duties with not much better behaviour; he was afflicted with the same failing as Conolly, with respect to his fondness for liquor, but was not so violent and abusive when under its effects. His spouse was sent, I suppose, to keep him company, to reward which tender con-

jugal duty the Custom-house allowed her 7s. 6d. a-day; and as Huntley himself received 10s. their combined salaries amounted to a nice little sum, quite sufficient to support a small domestic establishment like theirs, without any children. For what other purpose she was sent it would bother the brains of wise Solomon himself to divine, for she was unfitted by age, and infirmities of all sorts, for the situation. She had but one faculty left, but that had been extraordinarily developed after the loss of all the others. It was an exceedingly loquacious tongue, that seldom ceased to talk, for while sleep, in other women, would put a term to the exercise of that organ, as she seldom slept, there was but little interruption to her noise. She was a regular trooper at an oath, and for chattering she could beat all the parrots in the world hollow: the negroes must have thought themselves in their native woods while listening to her. Indeed she possessed in a high degree all those vocal accomplishments which have rendered "Mrs. Caudle" so distinguished a character. This peaceful talent, it was believed, had driven her husband to drink, who, afraid it would likewise drive him mad, had, as he confessed to me, coaxed her to accompany him to Lemon Valley in the hope of affording her an opportunity of catching the smallpox, or some other disease, and thus get rid of her. His expectations were not disappointed—she died on board the "Julia" about a month after her arrival; and as I was afraid she might have come by her death by unfair means, I opened and examined the body, but found nothing to justify my suspicions. When I relate that on one occasion she was locked up in a bunk a whole night in order that her garrulity might not disturb the festivities that were going on on board, where some more of the overseers and two or three Portuguese had assembled to have a regular symposium, some idea may be formed of the life the worthy pair must have led on board the slaver. We buried her about half-a-mile up the valley, there being no smallpox at the time of her death on board the "Julia," and therefore no interdiction, as there was in the case of Smith, to carrying her corpse on shore. A small quadrangular wall, about three feet high, built of rough stones, was erected to mark the spot. At the period of my leaving the island, three years afterwards, the simple monument existed, and probably still remains a conspicuous object to attract the passing stranger's attention.

It was the season of high surfs, and at times the sea would be so turbulent that it was impossible to go off to the vessels. Whenever a day of calm occurred, which was rather unusual, we took advantage of it, and put the water and provisions on board in quantities sufficient to last for several days.

The cause of the high surfs that prevail at stated periods in hot countries has, I believe, never been properly accounted for. No phenomenon like it takes place out of the tropics. Imagine a line, distant about 500 fathoms from the shore, extending round the coast, being the boundary mark between the realms of peace and turbulence. All within the line towards the land is in a wild uproar; long continuous waves come rushing on in regular files, rising in a gentle ripple, but increasing in size as they approach the land, until they assume the mag-

nitude of enormous billows, sweeping with terrific fury against every obstacle that opposes their progress, and breaking in wreaths of foam against the rocks and stones of the beach. The moment before they break, they lift up their heads to a great height, bending and curling their crests like some gigantic sea-monsters; a moment afterwards they are shivered and broken up into mountains of spray. Once their fury is spent, the back swell, as it is called, draws the volume of the waters backwards, until from 50 to 100 yards of the bottom of the sea, which at all other times is covered with water, are exposed naked and dry. All this is accompanied with a dreadful din of hissing and boiling and rattling, so that the noise can be heard in the centre of the island, which, indeed, often shakes perceptibly with the shocks, as if some earthquake assisted with its terrors to augment the dread commotion of the deep. While this scene of elemental warfare is taking place along the shore, at a distance of 500 fathoms, the sea is perhaps perfectly calm, at least it is not necessarily agitated. The surfs that occur along the shores of Madras, and the islands of Polynesia, have acquired a sort of historical reputation; those of St. Helena have seldom been alluded to; which is certainly rather singular, considering the number of strangers who must have witnessed them, and the peculiarity of their occurrence around a small island in the centre of the ocean.

Returning one evening from the "Louiza," we were overtaken by one of these violent surfs. Just as we expected a lull had taken place, and I had made a spring out of the boat to leap on shore, a dreadful swell came in, and the boat being moved away from the landing-place by the rowers, who plied their oars most lustily to get to sea before the waves should rush in and drive the boat on shore, instead of alighting on my feet, on the rock, as I should have done, I fell upon it, with my side severely lacerated against its projecting point. I was stunned, and lay senseless until carried away; and so violent was the nature of the injury to the internal organs, that a profuse hæmorrhage immediately ensued, followed by an obstinate attack of jaundice, and it was more than eighteen months before I recovered from the effects of the fall.

A few days after this occurrence, the same boat was smashed to pieces by the surf, and of the three persons in it, John O'Connor, the overseer, and the two negroes, the former only saved himself from injury by throwing himself into the sea and swimming until a lull took place, and the other two were very badly hurt. Marianno, one of the negroes, was rendered paralytic for months afterwards, in his inferior extremities, in consequence of a blow received on his back, from the prow of the boat striking him there, when he was thrown out, and both he and it were pitched by the violence of the waves upon the beach. The other negro got the integuments about his eyebrow and forehead lacerated in a frightful manner.

The British crew and Portuguese were, by order of the authorities, detained three weeks at Lemon Valley, during which time the jovial society of Mr. Roberts, the prize-officer, who took up his quarters with me in the fisherman's hut, was the source of great pleasure. Many an amusing anecdote he related to me of his adventures on the coast, where

he had been employed during the long period of eleven years. The brilliant services he had rendered on several imminent occasions were appreciated by the Admiralty as they deserved to be, and on his return to England, which took place about a year afterwards, promotion, as well as prize-money, awaited him. Never did any sailor more gallantly earn both. The seamen, likewise, had lodged with the overseers on shore, and a friendly intimacy had grown up between them. It was therefore with feelings of regret that the overseers and myself witnessed their departure for Old Woman's Valley, the locality which was still adopted by the authorities to send the crews of slave-vessels to, previous to allowing them admission into town. Why could they not have been permitted at once to repair to Old Woman's Valley, instead of being first detained three weeks at our station? It has been mentioned that no sanitary regulations were exacted from the Lascars after they had been three weeks on board the "Julia," nor from the Engineers after their visit for the purpose of putting a between-deck in that vessel; why then could not the British crew and Portuguese of the "Louisa" have been exempted from the observance? I do not pretend to argue that an immunity from the observance of a quarantine should have been extended to the last, because allowed to the others,—but, that it should have been exacted equally from all, if not as a matter of necessity, at least as a measure of prudence and safety. While the sailors and Portuguese were passing away the period of their confinement, engaged, like the great Scipio (but not quite so contentedly) during his voluntary exile, in picking up the shells of the sea-shore, and collecting limpets, crabs, and sea-stars, and drawing moral axioms from the occupation, to soothe their spleen and cheer their dreariness, the "Marcianna," another prize to the "Brisk," arrived with 256 slaves on board.

The most disgusting scene I had ever beheld during the whole period of my connexion with the Liberated African Establishment was presented to my notice on the present occasion. I had to take the number of the people, as usual, and, in order to ascertain it correctly, had to descend to the fore-castle, a little place, large enough to hold about six persons with ease, but which was now filled with fifteen smallpox patients, huddled together, with other accessories of a nature unimaginable and unmentionable. The excessive heat and horribly offensive smell exceeded everything I had ever before, or have since experienced; a dissecting room was a garden of roses to it.

On board of the "Marcianna" was a passenger of the ovine species—a miserable lean goat that had been sickened by the pestilential atmosphere on board, and was, like the negroes, suffering from the effects of dysentery. The poor animal died three days afterwards, in spite of its transference to the shore. I have alluded to this circumstance because I am convinced that the brute was killed simply from the inhalation of an impure atmosphere, and the other causes that engendered disease among the Africans; they were the same deleterious agencies and the same sickness that affected both. The sailors, who are proverbial for their kindness and attachment to animals, were very fond of this pet,

and attended it with care; and the weather had not been boisterous during the passage, so that it could not have sickened and died from the want of food, or from injury received from the rolling of the ship during storms.

Without subjecting the prize-officer and the crew of the "Marciana" to the annoyances that would have resulted from a preliminary detention at our station, they were permitted to remove at once to Old Woman's Valley, and after their residence in that interesting spot during the prescribed period, they were, in quarantine parlance, allowed *pratique*. This was as it should have been. It was necessary to exact a quarantine, for smallpox existed on board the "Marciana," as well as the previous slave-vessels, and therefore the isolation of Old Woman's Valley was required; but it was certainly an improvement on the original system, not to insist upon the detention at Lemon Valley, which had been, indeed, a ridiculous farce, subjecting the crew to much inconvenience, without attaining in the least degree the alleged object of security. Mr. Roberts and his party, then, had scarcely left Old Woman's Valley before the prize-officer and sailors of the "Marciana" arrived there.

To take charge of the "Marciana," Samuel Blake, a glazier, and Richard Young, a sawyer, were sent; but the one fell ill, and the other became frightened; so that in a short time I was obliged to accede to their wishes to officiate on shore, and not long afterwards they resigned their situations. At the same epoch a few more officials were sent, although certainly not required. Mrs. Weller, a worthy substitute for Mrs. Huntley, and her two grown-up children, James and Joshua, were put upon the establishment. The first salutation I received from the new matron, was an interminable description of all the maladies with which she was afflicted: they comprised the whole catalogue of Cullen's nosology, and many diseases besides unknown to him; had she been affected with a hundredth part of the ailments she assured me she was labouring under, she would only have been a more worthy illustration than she was, of the judgment of the officers of the Custom-house in her selection for the office she was to hold in the establishment. With respect to James and Joshua, they were more engaged in quarrelling with each other, than occupied in anything else. They were naughty boys, so their mother assured them times out of mind, and quite as often promised them a whipping for their misdemeanours. We likewise made the acquisition of Henry Knipe and Robert Mason about this period. • As in a lottery the greater part of the tickets are blanks, so in our establishment there were but few prizes; but among them Henry Knipe happened to be of the number. The second evening after Mason's arrival, he took a bleeding at the nose; and as nothing could convince him that the hæmorrhage was not the smallpox, he became so excessively alarmed, that he too resigned his situation. His detention, with several more of the overscers, at Old Woman's Valley after their resignation, will be described hereafter. Not content with the addition of seven officials, six of whom were useless, the Collector of Customs de-patched a further number of nine Portuguese to act

likewise as overseers. These had been brought to St. Helena by the "Fantome," after capturing the slaver "Dous d'Abril," to which they belonged. The employment of Portuguese slave-dealers in a public establishment ought surely to have been avoided under any circumstances; in the present case, when there was no use for their services, the establishment being actually burthened with salaried servants, the introduction of these barterers and purveyors of human blood was highly reprehensible. Over the very Africans they had torn away from their homes, and subjected to the sufferings of a slaver's hold, and purposed to expose to the blood-sweats of the cane-field, they were now set to instruct as teachers, and conduct as overseers. These Portuguese too were rewarded with salaries which would have been gladly accepted by honest Englishmen; and why have given the preference to foreigners, even supposing their previous habits had not been incompatible with their present avocations? This certainly must have appeared to the negroes something very like recompensing the Portuguese for their atrocities towards them.

Impressed with a belief that they could return to their native country from St. Helena, the Africans often effected their escape from the station, hoping they would find some way of reaching their homes. They generally left the station at night, availing themselves of the darkness to avoid detection; for they, as well as the officials, were under the impression that strict orders had been given to the quarantine guard, to shoot any person belonging to the station who might be found beyond its precincts. Complaints had been made, on one or two occasions, respecting these irruptions over the island by parties of Africans. They had committed depredations, it was said, and perhaps truly, on the gardens of the farmers; and it was alleged, but I suspect not quite so correctly, that they had stopped a young gentleman, and forcibly pulled him off his horse, and demanded money from him. It is impossible to imagine what improbable conceptions would have been formed respecting the thieving and desperate propensities of the negroes, by the natives of the island, when returning after a "feast of a devil and a flow of Cape wine," had not a little tragical occurrence, which is just as well suppressed, taken place, that put a stop for a while to the erratic delusions of the Africans, and an extinguisher on the flaming imaginations of the inhabitants. Indeed, in the course of a short time, in the fancies of the last, the simple, timid children of Africa, would have been converted into ferocious banditti; the poor fawning, crouching wretch, who had been in the habit of receiving with submission, and without murmur, the scourge of the cat from a vile, cowardly Portuguese, nearly as abject as himself, would have been made to assume, all at once, the undaunted courage of Dick Turpin, or any other notorious highway robber.

Among the inventions concocted at the Custom-house for the guidance of the Liberated African Establishment, the plan suggested by Mr. Stephen Pritchard, the senior clerk and storehouse-keeper, to classify the negroes by their heights, by the different marks on their bodies, and by the appellation of English names, was about the most ingenious

and useless. Stephen was certainly possessed of talent, if it consisted in an imagination to contrive impracticable schemes ; he was, however, troubled with so lamentable an inconstancy of purpose, that he would seldom give his plans, extravagant as they were, a fair trial ; but as soon as they would be carried into operation, he would annul them by the substitution of others quite as ridiculous. To judge by the constant changes in the regulations, it might have been supposed that the grand problem of perpetual motion had been discovered. These incessant alterations, however, consisted only in the shifting and changing of the wheels of the machine, which had the effect, not of continuing the movement *ad infinitum*, but sometimes of accelerating it, at other times of retarding it, and in some instances of occasioning a dead stop, so that no regular work could be executed by it. Stephen was peculiarly happy in invention, but as remarkably infelicitous in practice. So very crude and intricate were his ideas, that none but himself could comprehend their meaning ; and it is reasonable to suppose they would have been unintelligible to himself, had he been like anybody else, who has common sense. But he had no occasion for that commodity, for he possessed genius ; and had he lived in the palmy days of ancient Greece, there would have been an addition to the limited number of her seven wise men. About all his actions there was something very extraordinary ; even his speech was pompous, and his words high-sounding : but, again, it was extremely unfortunate that the sound was generally at variance with the sense : the longest words in the English language, with an occasional plagiarism from the Greek and Latin, were chosen by him in preference, to elucidate his conceptions, without any regard to their adaptation. The nickname in which he prided was "The Dictionary ;" and indeed he might be likened to one, containing lists of words of ten syllables and upwards, but without any explanation to them.

To assist in carrying out Mr. Stephen Pritchard's classification, a two-foot rule was sent us with due pomp and solemnity : one would have thought this rule was to be as wonderful an instrument as Lord Rosse's telescope. The Africans were called to a muster, and ten of the tallest of them were conducted away to the chief overseer's room. They were measured, and their heights accurately ascertained ; they were also baptised, without the ceremonies of the church. Many of them received appropriate names—as Jim Crow, Billy Black, Sam Snow, Susan Sloe, Sally Sly, and Sukey Slut : others were called after illustrious characters—as Julius Cæsar, Pope Pius, Napoleon Bonaparte, Daniel O'Connell, and Walter Scott—not forgetting their universal godfather, Stephen Pritchard. All this was very easy ; but it began to be a far more difficult matter to describe and classify the different marks and spots on their bodies, whether occasioned by tatooing, or the result of wounds or sores. The whole science of mathematics would not have furnished terms to define with precision the complicated figures inscribed by tatooing on their skins. I began also to be afraid I should exhaust the English Dictionary for words to explain the characters of the hieroglyphics depicted by accident or disease over every

part of their bodies, and that I should be obliged to write to friend Stephen for the loan of his Greek and Latin Lexicon. Just imagine the difficulty of describing every pit, mark, and cicatrix occasioned by confluent smallpox, or an individual who is left disfigured by the disease from head to foot. Well, after going through twenty negroes the first day, and about fifteen the next, I had to give up the job as impracticable. It would have beat Hercules—the cleaning of the Augean Stable was nothing to it.

Stephen Pritchard, however, was not so easy to be put off; so, finding that one plan would not succeed, he quickly adopted his usual practice of inventing another to attain the end. He enlisted the services of a tinsmith, and got a number of flat circular bits of tin struck off, numbered from 1 to 500, with the letters m, w, b, and g, on them in small text, to distinguish the sexes and the ages, and with the addition of the initials of the cruizers in Roman capitals. Thus, a tin with WW on the top, and an m below, with the number 20, denoted that the ticket belonged to a man whose number was 20, and who had been captured by the "Waterwitch." In like manner, a large B stood for "Brisk," an F for "Fantome;" and so on for the rest of the cruizers. These tallies, as they were called, were elegantly suspended from the neck by a hempen cord, about the thickness of a finger; and when thus decorated, the Africans looked a little worse than with their bead necklaces and copper rings. They seemed to be a little suspicious, at first, at the investiture of these ornaments; and no wonder! for the cord naturally gave rise to unpleasant associations, and they could never be reconciled to their use, on account of the edges of the tins cutting and scratching their flesh. I have often been obliged to consent to a negro laying them aside, owing to their irritation on the skin, bringing out eruptions. * I began to felicitate Stephen on having solved the enigma of a classification; but about a month afterwards I examined all the people at a general muster, and found that one-third of them had lost or thrown away their tallies—another third had made exchanges, the men with the women, and the girls with the boys—and of the remaining third, a great part were worn, not on the neck, but on various other parts of the body, and not a few had been converted, by hammering and beating, into knives and spoons. How often do the best-laid schemes end in disappointment! I have heard it said, when the news of the failure of the tin-tally scheme was brought to Stephen, he was quite overcome with vexation. *Hinc illæ lachrymæ!*

The Africans who had arrived in the "Julia" having now thoroughly recovered from sickness, and become hearty and strong, it was an object with the Government to remove them to some other place, where they might be employed in some useful labour. Having been located on shore ever since their arrival, and never been allowed communication with the slaves of the "Louiza" and the "Marciana," there was no fear of their spreading the infection of smallpox among the inhabitants of the island, for it was now some weeks since the last case had occurred among them. Their removal was beneficial by affording room on shore for the others, who were rather closely confined on board-a-

ship, and by giving an opportunity to the people of St. Helena to select from among them whatever servants they might require, thus saving the expense of their maintenance to Government. Let me add, also, that their removal was of advantage in relieving their minds of the suspicions created by their long detention; they could not imagine for what reason they were kept so long in confinement, and as they could not be made to understand the nature and the usefulness of a quarantine, they were often distrustful respecting their future destination. Another station was formed at Rupert's Valley, about a quarter of a mile from James' Town, and a little to the east, and thither were the negroes removed.

Rupert's Valley possesses a little more pretension to be dignified with its appellation. It may be designated a vale, for the mountains that embrace it assume not the rugged and steep character of precipices, and there is a greater extent of ground, which is also more level than at Lemon Valley; but the absence of vegetation, for nothing but a few saline plants will grow on its sterile soil—the desolation and dreariness of the place, and the want of water, were great objections against its adoption for a station. Here, however, some barracks had been erected for the accommodation of soldiers, and as they were capable of containing 200 negroes, in the way they were usually lodged, they were employed for the purpose, and the valley was given up for the use of the Liberated African Establishment. At the formation of this station a surgeon was appointed, Mr. Henry Solomon, who was likewise health-officer, to attend to 200 healthy negroes who were sent there. Besides the surgeon, there was a large complement of clerks and overseers and matrons; so numerous were the officials that were placed there, that the Collector of Customs must have been considered at the time, by all parties seeking situations, as an object extremely worthy of paying their court to.

On the 16th March, the "Minerva" arrived with 316 slaves, likewise suffering from smallpox, but, as regarded dysentery and scurvy, in a much healthier condition than the preceding slave-vessels. The greater part of the slaves were Congos, whose language was new, and therefore unintelligible to me, although I was able at that time to converse with the Benguelas. They were different from these last in many respects were smaller—if anything, uglier; but they appeared to be more reconciled to their situation, for they were not so morose and melancholy. There was a negro on board, engaged in an occupation I did not expect to meet with in a slaver; he was making hats in imitation of European straw hats, out of the split leaves of a species of palm tree; many a shilling he subsequently earned, as he was really clever at the business. Another man presented himself to my notice on board. He had an enormous lump on the upper part of his back, occasioned, as he said, by having been flogged with a rope an inch thick. This proved to be an abscess, which, after it had been discharged, became converted into a large ulcer, exposing a great portion of the shoulder plate, as black as ebony, and completely detached from the flesh around. This man, of course, died, and his death may be attributed to the punishment inflicted on him; the rope, owing to its weight and thickness,

having literally bruised, contuded, and mortified, skin, flesh, and bone.

To prove the unsuccessful nature of the Slave-trade, at times, the case of Signor Alvarez, the captain of the "Minerva," might be cited: He was the commander, previously, of both the "Andorinha" and the "Julia;" but when these vessels were captured, had contrived to make his escape. He was not so fortunate on the present occasion, having been taken with a large complement of slaves, whose value at the Brazils, had he succeeded in conveying and selling them there, would have amounted to a considerable sum. This "Minerva" herself was a very respectable vessel for a slaver, and might be valued at a few hundred pounds. When we take into consideration also the loss that Signor Alvarez must have sustained by the capture of the "Andorinha" and the "Julia" by the British cruizers, the Julia being full of slaves, and most of them belonging to him, we must conclude that there exists some very great attraction in the business; else, after so many misfortunes, he would not have been easily tempted to embark again in such ruinous speculations. The attraction, however, which the trade presents is very great, and consists in the holding out of enormous profits, if successful. Signor Alvarez was considered to be still a rich man, in spite of his losses; at least such was his reputation at St. Helena, where he experienced no difficulty in obtaining an advance on his bills on Rio de Janeiro. Nothing daunted, either, by what had taken place, he expressed his determination to continue the traffic, assuring us that one successful voyage would be a compensation for all he had lost by the late captures. To have judged the man by his appearance and manners, no conception could have been formed that he was the instigator of the horrible scene of drowning on board the "Julia," and the author of the wholesale suffocation on board the present vessel, allusion to which shocking circumstances has already been made in the third chapter.

After being detained three days, not at Old Woman's Valley, as heretofore, for the purpose of purifying infection, but on board the "Minerva" in the midst of the smallpox there, the British crew, together with Signor Alvarez, who by some means or other had become a great favourite with the English sailors, and his Portuguese cook, were allowed to land at James' Town directly from the vessel, without even their clothes being required to be previously washed. From the *libre pratique* accorded in this instance, it might be imagined that the station had ceased to be in quarantine; but not so—for, about the same time, the three days' separation at Old Woman's Valley, as will be described, was exacted from several of our officials, who, annoyed at different circumstances that had happened, had sent in their resignations: besides, the confinement to which we who remained at the station were subjected was as close and severe as ever, and ceased not until six weeks after the perfect cure of the last case of smallpox on board the "Minerva." This was another instance, and a most glaring one, of inattention on the part of the Colonial Authorities to quarantine regulations—and this instance too, most luckily, was unattended with any evil consequences.

In the mean time, Richard Mallet, a sailor, who had just been discharged from the civil hospital, after ten months' detention there for the cure of a loathsome disease, was sent to take charge of the "*Minerva*." Most of the Portuguese crew were remaining on board when Mallet arrived. The British captors, it appears, had not taken the precaution to dismantle the slaver. The spars and sails were still on board, there was plenty of provisions and water, and the vessel was in a fit condition in every respect for continuing the voyage to the Brazils. Thither, it seems, the Portuguese had determined to take her. There were none on board who could have opposed their undertaking, but a weak and sickly being, whom it would have been an easy affair to overmaster. The chain cable detached or cut, and the sails bent, during the darkness of night, before dawning light they might have been many a mile away out of sight of the island. Some of the negroes, who understood Portuguese, had overheard, however, the plot which was brewing, and on the night it was to have been put in execution informed Mallet of it. Still, had the Portuguese been resolved to carry through their plans, there was nothing to have prevented them. Mallet could not have left the ship to announce their escape, for the only boat belonging to the station was on shore, and the vessel was too far off for him to have swam to land, or to have been heard had he endeavoured by shouts to give alarm—besides the liability of his cries, if heard, being mistaken for the uproarious songs of the negroes, as they often danced and sang during a large portion of the night. So intimidated were the Portuguese, however, at this unexpected discovery of their intentions, that they had not the heart to make the attempt at escape, easy as it might have been; and as a boat was despatched for them the next morning, they left the "*Minerva*," much to our satisfaction, if not their own.

About a week after the arrival of the "*Minerva*," when sufficient time had elapsed to enable the Africans to recover from the surprise created by their late capture and the novelty of their present situation, it was highly diverting to witness the gaiety that seemed to animate them. Drawn up in rows, they would sing for hours together without moving, beating the cadences of the music with clapping of hands, or the shaking of calabashes half filled with sand. At other times, they would follow each other in long files, and promenade and march round the deck, dancing and capering like young goats. Towards evening they would indulge in their favourite figures; the fandango and the war-dance would then be the principal source of amusement, and these gay, thoughtless creatures were the same who but a month ago were exposed to the tortures of suffocation in the hold, and lost so many of their companions in that catastrophe, perhaps amongst them the fondest relations and the most esteemed friends. Well may the race be accused of insensibility. These occupations, however, were not the only means at the disposal of the Congos for the purpose of enabling them to pass the time pleasantly. In the billets sent for firewood, as they consisted of timber from broken-up slavers, they discovered a number of copper nails, and from these they made fish-hooks to catch

mackerel with, and very passable rings for the decoration of their females.

The deck of the "Minerva" was converted into a smithy, and round the galley fire, might be continually seen bands of sable Cyclops, heating bars in the fire or beating them out to the required shapes; the copper bolts serving for anvil, hammer, and likewise material from which the articles were manufactured. The rings constituted not merely ornaments, for being worn on the wrist and ankles in pairs, and sometimes larger numbers, they served likewise all the purposes of castanets, and made really not inharmonious music with their jingling in the different steps of the dance. Their hooks being made of different sizes, they were able to catch with them fish of all sorts and dimensions, from the small fry to the full-grown sandpear. Many a wholesome dish their industry thus procured them. At that season the fish were schooling in myriads in the bay; after the fry the bonitas would come skipping and bounding, the albacores would rush with the speed of lightning after the mackerel, and the porpoises dart on the flying fish. Numbers of sea-birds, attracted to the place, would catch the flying fish—started from the waters by their finny pursuers, or wheeling round and round to watch their prey, would dart with unerring precision, and secure their share of the spoils. The sea and sky seemed alive with animation; the whirring of the flying fish, the scream of the cormorants, the splash of the albacores, and the puffing and blowing of the porpoises, all betokened the desperation of the actors in the terrific game of life and death.

One of the most pleasant and successful piscatorial excursions I ever made was alongside of the "Minerva," fishing for bonitas. A rod and line are used for the purpose, the former made out of a stout bamboo, and the latter of a hard twisted cord, not above six feet in length. Some fry are dipped for with a hand-net, and one of the fattest and liveliest being selected for bait, is hooked through the dorsal fin, and drawn over the surface of the water, in the same manner as you play the fly in angling for trout. Presently, the bonitas, attracted by the motion, will come dashing and leaping at the fish. When hooked, the bonita is thrown into the boat by a jerk of the rod. In this manner I caught two dozen in less than an hour one day; and as several of them weighed more than 20lbs., some idea may be formed of the boatload that is occasionally procured by a few hours' toil. The sport is excellent, and was always highly relished by the negroes, who were provided by it frequently with the means of feasting and revelling for days together afterwards.

I have already alluded to the resignation of their situations by several of the overseers. Lieutenant Matthew O'Connor, who was clerk and chief overseer, and his wife, who was matron, were the first to give up their berths. As they always lived in Lemon Valley, they did not require to suffer the penance of a three days' pilgrimage to Old Woman's Valley. On the present occasion, Fuller, Ross, and Welsh were the persons who emigrated to that delightful "El Dorado." They were followed shortly afterwards by five out of the nine Portuguese who had

been put upon the establishment. The others preferred remaining to accompanying their comrades; Joseph, Marco, and Manvel stopped at Lemon Valley, while Theodore was removed to the station at Rupert's. The third party who visited Old Woman's Valley on the same errand as the others consisted of Young, Blake, and Mason. Such were the changes that took place among the officials of the establishment in the interval that elapsed between the arrival of the "Minerva" and the expiration of the quarantine.

That day so ardently wished for at length arrived. By the beginning of April I was enabled to announce to the authorities the disappearance, for the fourth time, of the smallpox. That disease had been extremely mild on board the "Minerva," as, indeed, it had been among the people of the "Louisa" and "Marcianna;" very few deaths were occasioned by it, and the last case having been cured, it was with much pleasure I indited the epistle that intimated the welcome intelligence. It was received with as much delight as communicated. The inhabitants were relieved of a great oppression; the terror which had seized them was now fled; they felt as if awoke from a slumber that had been long troubled by a hideous nightmare; in fact, they now felt secure, and therefore happy. A probationary period of six weeks was ordained as the term during which every chance of infection might be supposed to be extinguished, and the cessation of quarantine was appointed to take place on the 23d May. Without any further incident worthy of narrative, that day at last came, and quarantine ceased, to the inexpressible joy of us all—Colonial Authorities, natives of the island, and inmates of the establishment, whether officials or Africans.

EXPORTS OF VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

A comparative statement of the principal articles exported from Hobart Town and Launceston:—

1843.			
	Hobart Town.		Launceston.
Wool.....	6093 bales	.....	7899 bales
Oil.....	949 tuns	.....	279 tuns
Whalebone	45 tons	.....	17½ tons
Bark	266 tons	.....	344 tons
Flour.....	817 tons	.....	1723 tons
Wheat	14345 bush.	.....	221547 bush.
Barley	3133 bush.	.....	8440 bush.
Oats.....	1330 bush.		
1844.			
	Hobart Town.		Launceston.
Wool.....	6829 bales	.....	8746 bales
Oil.....	1742 tuns	.....	221 tuns
Whalebone	57 tons	.....	7½ tons
Bark	78 tons	.....	852 tons
Flour.....	1129 tons	.....	1926 tons
Wheat	18292 bush.	.....	272905 bush.
Barley....	1198 bush.	.....	8654 bush.
Oats	3246 bush.	.....	35895 bush.
—H. T. Observer.			

COMPARATIVE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF COFFEE.

We are indebted to a commercial house in New Orleans for the following:—

COMPARATIVE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF COFFEE IN THE YEARS 1832, 1841, AND 1845.

	MILLIONS OF POUNDS.		
	1832.	1841.	1845.
Brazil	80·6	156·8	180·0
Java	40·3	112·0	100·0
Cuba and Porto Rico	56·0	56·0	25·0
St. Domingo	44·8	33·6	30·0
British West Indies	24·6	13·4	12·0
Sumatra	44·8	13·4	15·0
Mocha, Bourbon, &c. }	11·2	11·2	10·0
Ceylon and British India	6·7	6·7	10·0
French and Dutch West Indies ..	17·9	6·7	6·0
Laguayra and Porto Cabello ..	13·4	22·4	20·0
	329·1	432·2	408·0

Increase of produce from 1832 to 1841 (nine years) 103·1, or 3½ per cent. per annum.

Suppose the increase to be the same to 1845, the produce would be 492·7.

In 1832, 1841, 1845,

The stocks in Europe were 123·2 111·8 165·8

CONSUMPTION.

Holland and Netherlands	90·7	112·0	125·0
Germany and North of Europe ..	71·7	89·6	100·0
France and South of Europe	78·4	89·6	95·0
Great Britain	23·5	33·6	40·0
United States	45·9	100·8	120·0
British N. American Provinces } ..	11·2	11·2	15·0
	310·2	436·8	495·0

Increase from 1832 to 1841 (nine years) 126·6, or 4½ per cent. per annum.

Increase for four years 58·2, or 3½ per cent. per annum.

Stock in Europe, January 1st, 1845	165·8
Ditto in United States	40·0
Production for 1845	403·0

Supply for 1845	613·8
Consumption	495·0

Probable stock, January, 1846, for world 118·8

Or about three months' consumption.

In addition to the above we might add, that the import into New Orleans this season is 3,800 bags Cuba, and 167,000 bags Rio, against 52,800 bags Cuba, and 161,000 bags Rio, last season.

The whole export of coffee from Rio to the United States is 150,000 bags less this season than the last, and the import from Cuba almost entirely cut off.

ON THE VEGETABLE ORIGIN OF BASALTIC COLUMNS.

BY CAPT. CHARLES MORTON, R.N.

(Resumed from vol. v. p. 269.)

ASTRONOMY displays to our wondering minds, the myriads of stars, suns, worlds, a million times bigger than our earth, which, at the Almighty command, revolve in endless space; we are irresistibly impressed with a conviction of the unlimited extent of His creative powers. Globes seem to have issued from His hands with all the facility and rapidity with which the happy child commits to the winds his brilliant but evanescent soap-bubbles. Were it not as vain for the human mind to speculate upon the origin and nature of the nucleus around which our visible globe is formed, as to imagine a beginning or an end to matter, time, or space—we might, from the nebulous appearance of some of the heavenly bodies, be disposed to fancy that our own earth in its embryo state was merely an inflated bubble; that, receiving the divine command or stimulus to consolidate and expand to perfect maturity, imbued with the property of maintaining and appropriating to its own growth the accumulations which the luxuriant animal and vegetable kingdoms of remote ages had absorbed from the vapour of the atmosphere and ocean, and fixed in their own structures, it had, like the mighty cotton tree, the giant of tropical forests, expanded many hundred million times beyond the bulk of the original seed, or atom, from which it sprung. For, where the lowest coal formation now is, there, most assuredly, the surface of the earth once was; and in all the works of creation yet unfolded to human research, we invariably find the most stupendous results produced by the most simple means. Minute seeds expand to mighty trees—the gigantic iguanodon, a lizard sixty or seventy feet long, was once a fluid confined within an egg-shell. How then shall vain man, seeing where the surface of the earth once was, presume to deny its obedience to the general laws of expansion which we find so universally in operation?

However this may be, it is evident that in endowing human nature with powers adequate to trace causes from effects, the Almighty intended those faculties should be exercised, as well in the contemplation of the wonders of creation as of other matters. It is, in fact, by the contemplation of His works that we arrive at the best knowledge of our Heavenly Father. With this conviction, and the belief that we are all, according to our abilities, bound to assist in unravelling those mysteries which still shroud subjects susceptible of rational solution, I attempted, in a former article, to procure for regularly-jointed and articulated Basaltic Columns, now pronounced by geologists to be of volcanic formation, the admission of a vegetable origin. I have, as yet, confined my

remarks to regularly-jointed and articulated columns, more particularly to those of Staffa and the Giant's Causeway, which I have endeavoured to show are the petrified relics of the enormous bamboos of a far-distant age. This fact accorded, as I conceive it ultimately must be, I shall perhaps be prepared to claim for the vegetable, as well as the animal kingdom, still more important features in fixing the vapours and waters of the atmosphere and ocean, than hitherto accorded to them. I may hereafter attempt to show the propriety of tracing the stupendous basaltic columns of continuous, instead of jointed shafts, to the various tribes of cocoa-nut or palm trees of ancient worlds. Instead of conjuring up central or submarine volcanoes for the origin and upward protrusion of the basaltic columns which ascend the steep cliffs and crown the summits of the most lofty mountains in Scotland, perhaps it might be more easy and rational, more in accordance with the beauty and simplicity of the means usually pursued by the Almighty, to conceive those mountains to have been formerly clothed with enormous trees of the cocoa-nut or palm tribes, the luxuriant vegetation of those remote ages when Scotia, through the greater obliquity of the ecliptic, glowed beneath the verdure of a tropical sun. For, however we may differ as to the cause of a tropical climate, none can deny the fact of a high temperature having once prevailed, even in the polar regions, where ice and snow now reign. The remains of palm trees, of elephants and crocodiles, attest the fact; and it is certainly more consistent to extend to remote ages a cause we know to have been in operation for these last three thousand years, than to attribute the greater temperature to central fires or volcanoes, which have failed to produce such effects since history could be relied on, and to which no rational man now attempts to ascribe the high temperature of the present tropics.

Where unequivocal evidence of igneous influence presents itself, spontaneous combustion, the lightnings of heaven, the electric fluid might furnish, in the absence of positive proof of volcanic agency, abundant sources of heat to account for the charred or igneous appearances recorded.

The same power which is known to have converted the haystack into a mass of flint, which fuses metals, converts vapour into hail, and generates meteoric stones in the clouds, might surely, without any great stretch of the imagination, be admitted to have reduced the luxuriant foliage and cabbage tops of these enormous palms to the matter which, under the title of *Basaltic Columns*, crowns with a dome or cap the summits of many columnar mountains.

The Basaltic Windykes which traverse the coal-measures imagined by geologists to have been protruded upwards by volcanic agency, through the coal formations, and other strata, are perhaps equally attributable to a vegetable origin—to extensive ranges of luxuriant trees of tropical growth, which, by the agency of water and electricity, have been converted into enormous mineral ramparts, dams, or breakwaters, in comparison with which those of Cherbourg and Plymouth, the pride of France and Britain, sink into pigmy insignificance.

The vegetable, as well as the animal kingdom, has evidently per-

formed important functions in the construction of the mighty natural dams, locks, and flood-gates with which the waters have been alternately pent up and shut out, till the full amount of strata requisite to render the earth a suitable habitation for man had been deposited.

These are, indeed, wonders to contemplate with religious veneration, to exalt the mind of man. The whole work of creation excites our most intense surprise and admiration; the unity and design, the goodness, power, and wisdom of our Heavenly Father pervade the whole, and impress us with the greatest gratitude and awe. The smallest insect, and the largest animal, while partaking the luxuries of life—the most diminutive plant and the most stupendous tree, have evidently been alike employed as chemical laboratories, in fixing the exhalations from the earth, the vapour and waters of the atmosphere and ocean—perhaps in condensing, consolidating, and expanding the embryo world into the present beautiful arrangement of strata, so admirably adapted by a bountiful Providence to disclose to the view, and render its mineral treasures available to the industry and happiness of man.

The present crust of the earth has been formed by the successive accumulations of past animal and vegetable kingdoms, the chemical laboratories employed by our Heavenly Father, in condensing and consolidating an atmosphere once perhaps, like the comets, of almost immeasurable extent.

I now return from these speculative digressions, to the immediate object of my labours, to endeavour to dispel the mystery which, from the creation of man, has hung around the magnificent columns of the Giant's Causeway, and other similar formations, by disseminating the simple fact, already alluded to, that in these extraordinary structures, "*rivalling in their articulations, the work of the most skilful mason,*" we behold the petrified relics of the stupendous bamboos of a far-distant age!—I am not unconscious that in these renewed attempts to establish this simple, yet beautiful truth, I incur the risk of drawing upon me showers of ridicule—for I am not ignorant that what the most distinguished philosophers but a few years back maintained to be produced by *water*! is now, with still less reason, attributed to *fire*! that the most splendid authorities of the day ("*all living geologists, according to Buckland*") now maintain, that the columns of the Giant's Causeway, and other similar basaltic formations, are of volcanic origin!

With the deluge, minor floods, central, submarine, and superficial volcanoes at command, the geologist sweeps away at pleasure whole mountain districts, to leave a solitary hill, a column, or even a stone—or if this seem too arbitrary, he is armed with the unlimited powers of volcanoes, not only for the upward protrusion of isolated hills and columns, but whole mountain ranges are thus upreared. In vain do the vertical, or beautifully-bending columns of Scotland, Italy, Ireland, and France, in silent eloquence maintain their vegetable origin—however gracefully curved and beautifully articulated the columns, however vertical or highly inclined the strata, they have, according to the geologist, been thus upreared from the horizontal position, in which they were origi-

nally deposited, or vomited forth in torrents of molten lava from volcanoes! To convey some idea of the abrasive violence of antediluvian waters, and the prodigious ejecting powers of volcanoes, which geologists summon to their aid, to account for basaltic formations, I may remark that the Isle of Sky, 50 miles long, and 20 broad, covered with basalt in many places a thousand feet deep, and Mull, with its enormous mantle of the same material, are represented as the two foci, from which the antique lava has spread over the whole district of the Trap Isles; thus assuming that instead of islands, the land was once so continuous, that the lava from these imaginary volcanoes could freely spread itself around. The basaltic group of hills in Ireland occupy an area of 800 square miles, at an average depth of 545 feet; a solid mass, geologists remark, of magnificent dimensions. Such prodigious vomitings forth of molten lava, in these small districts, would indeed have been terrible to behold, and yet they form but fragments of the extensive basaltic formations of the globe. Those who wield such mighty power, wherewith to astonish and amuse their readers, leave the poor humble advocate of simple nature but little chance of being heard, or heeded; yet some secret power urges on my pen, and bids me not despair of ultimate success.

It is true that basaltic columns are sometimes found in the neighbourhood of volcanoes, and that the lavas which have flowed in streams amongst some of those in France resemble, in chemical composition, the columns from the fused debris of which they were in all probability formed. But the excrements scattered amongst our fields are in chemical composition allied to the grass on which the cattle fed, and yet we do not, on this account, attribute to grass an animal instead of a vegetable origin; nor should we, because volcanoes have in some instances burst forth in the neighbourhood of basaltic columns, ascribe to them a volcanic instead of a vegetable origin.

Accordingly, though deeply impressed with a conviction of the gratitude and respect due to our distinguished geologists for the numerous beautiful truths they have revealed to our view, I am nevertheless tempted to doubt the correctness of their conclusions, to deny the volcanic origin of regularly-jointed, and bamboo-articulated, basaltic columns.

I am not aware that any traces of volcanoes have been found near the Giant's Causeway; nor do I believe, as already remarked, that one single stratum of such articulated joints has ever been formed from any of the numerous torrents of molten lava ejected from Mount Etna, or from any volcano of which we have authentic records. The fact stated by Sir William Hamilton, of having found the fragment of such a joint ejected from the crater of Vesuvius, may merely prove that volcanoes feed upon the vegetable kingdoms of former worlds. I am, however, sufficiently acquainted with the terrible effects of volcanoes to know that they may readily destroy such columns, upheave coral reefs or islands, which the myriads of pigmy architects employed could only build to a level with the ocean which furnished them with the means of existence, and materials for construction; but however high the autho-

rities which recognise such destructive agents, as the means employed in the formation of these beautifully-articulated columns, I dare not add my humble assent to what appears to me so perfectly incomprehensible. Buckland and Cuvier, those bright ornaments of science, of England and of France, might with equal propriety have maintained the volcanic origin of the fossil remnants of the monstrous antediluvian animals, as that of the magnificent columns of the Giant's Causeway; for the most colossal of these mighty relics of a former world do not bear so great a disparity in size to the bamboos of the present day, as the gigantic antediluvian lizard, the iguanodon, sixty or seventy feet long, does to our diminutive reptiles of similar tribes. The articulations of the columns are as precisely similar to those of the bamboos (semispherical tenons, with corresponding sockets, or mortices) as the bones of the iguanodon are to those of our lizards. Besides, the general laws of crystallization are, in this instance, opposed to the Platonic theory. If torrents of molten lava had, on cooling, shot into such enormous crystals, immense spaces would necessarily have been left between them; for instead of crystals forming in close contact, they are, from obvious necessity, known to diverge more or less from one another. And no crystal from any matter upon earth, which now crystallizes, ever assumes the form, much less the magnitude, of these joints. Under any circumstances, it appears to me utterly impossible that enormous crystals of such varied diameters and size, as the joints or blocks of which the columns are formed, present to our view, crystallized from successive torrents of molten lava, ejected during a series of years, could have been endowed with the instinct and locomotion necessary to select their fellow joints of corresponding diameter, with corresponding tenons and mortices, and to arrange themselves so closely and exactly one above another till stupendous columns were formed, several hundred feet in height, presenting all the relative disparity of diameter and length of the joints in contiguous columns, which marks a field of sugar-canes, or forest of bamboos: spreading out above (to follow the descriptions of philosophers) and diverging in all directions, like enormous fans; the separate joints being sometimes, as in the famous Cyclops rocks, hollow like cannon, and the columns occasionally forming distinct groups, bending towards one another at the tops, so as to present the appearance of gigantic fluted pillars and arches of Gothic architecture. By supposing, in accordance with my theory, already published, that the stupendous bamboos of former worlds, adapted from the beginning to the functions they were designed by the Almighty Architect to perform in the structure of our globe, were petrified as they grew, or, by some subsequent overflowing of petrifying waters or vapours, or through the united agency of water and electricity, the mystery will vanish without violating or distorting the simple and beautiful laws of nature, to account for their appearance; for there is now, in Texas, a forest of living petrified trees! The bamboos of Jamaica contain large portions of siliceous matter, the most prominent component part of basaltic columns; while amongst the several varieties existing in India and China, some secrete within them, solid nodules, or masses of flint.

Census of Singapore, continued.

	1834.			1836.			1840.			1845.		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
Europeans	100	38	138	105	36	141	102	65	165	204	132	336
Native Christians	186	140	326	224	201	425	265	202	467	..	..	..
Armenians	32	12	44	26	8	34	19	17	36	38	27	65
Arabs	55	17	66	33	8	41	21	7	28	210	50	260
Klings	1659	69	1728	2246	102	2348	2455	152	2607	3948	700	4648
Natives of Hindostan	439	155	594	427	155	582	357	185	540	350	200	550
Bugis and Balinese	1346	1018	2364	1032	930	1962	1769	916	2655	1340	631	1971
Malays	5173	4279	9452	5122	4510	9632	4980	4052	9032	6217	4818	10035
Chinese	9944	823	10767	12870	879	13749	15518	1661	17179	28765	3367	32132
Javanese	400	269	669	580	323	903	648	386	1034	1149	182	1331
Caffres	25	14	39	17	24	41	13	11	24	26	33	59
Siamese	..	..	..	2	1	3	19	8	27	..	..	..
Indo-Britons	55	58	113	65	52	117	84	69	153	158	122	280
Jews..	6	..	6	4	..	4	8	..	8	37	15	52
Parsees	..	..	..	2	1	3	12	..	12	14	..	14
Boyanese	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	223	9	232
Portuguese	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	214	168	382
Military and Followers	19432	6897	26329	22755	7229	29784	26240	7729	33969	42793	10454	52347
Strangers, on an average	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	450	..	..	487
Convicts	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4000	..	..	3000
Sick and Insane in Hospital	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1262	..	..	1500
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	87
	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39681	..	..	57421

THE SPIRIT OF THE AGE FAVOURABLE TO COLONISATION.

OUR corrupt nature has ever been prompt to commit wrong and injustice to attain its selfish ends, and short-sighted man seldom foresees the ultimate defeat and disgrace that so often recoil upon bad faith and tyranny. The wronged have no redress but violence and war; yet victory does not always attend the struggles, however nobly sustained, of the oppressed: physical force and skill are no juster arbitrators between nations than between individuals. Again, how many wars have sprung from *imagined* injury and insult!—how often have two nations, each in the firm belief that her banner was hallowed by justice and a rightful cause, bent every energy and strained every nerve to inflict mutual misery and ruin! Meanwhile, Peace, and her sister Civilisation, in tears, behold their good work undone, their progress stayed—till the pressure of taxation, and the many miseries attending war, awake the sons of contention to a sense of their folly, the blighting effects of which they and their descendants feel in the cramped resources and increased burdens of future years.

No such ill consequences or bitter reflections attend the conquests of civilisation—the struggle between man and the uncultivated plain and uncleared forest; the settler's axe sheds not human blood, but blessings on the human race, and as the *Colonist* grows rich, his comfort is not lessened by thoughts of unhappiness entailed on others; with honest pride he glories that his enterprise and courage have, without giving grief to any, won for himself plenty and independence, and opened for his fellow-men new fields of industry and wealth.

Some time since, at an Agricultural Meeting, a reverend and well-known advocate of the poor claimed for the worn-out peasant the same consideration that Britain shows for her veteran warriors, stating that in his opinion the man who by his labour had enriched his country, resisting, in the midst of poverty and privation, all temptations to dishonesty and disloyalty, should look in old age and infirmity to his country for respect and support with the same confidence and the same success as he who had endured toilsome campaigns, and faced in fierce encounter the enemies of England.

The foregoing I give from recollection as the substance of the reverend gentleman's parallel, and its justice and force will, I think, strike the reflecting. May we not also assert that posterity will value the glorious but peaceful victories of persevering enterprise over the waste and wilderness, as highly as those man gains by sword and pestilence over his fellow-man?—not that I would underrate those gallant deeds of arms in which England has ever and now does glory, or for a moment arrest the blow struck in the defence of the liberties and rights of men.

A prevailing love of conquest, the influence of false ideas of justice and honour, and a disregard of the precepts of the Christian religion, have hitherto obliged the most peaceful and enlightened at times to wield the sword and bear the brand; but a happier day is dawning. Wisdom, trampling on the power of Ignorance, destroys her temples, liberates her victims, and teaches men to know in what their true duty and glory consist. Nations are beginning to appreciate the numberless blessings of *peace*. Unchecked by strife, the influence of *Commerce* is extending daily, and bringing men of all countries, creeds, and classes, into frequent and close communication; thus tending to destroy prejudices and establish that friendly feeling which must attend the sense of mutual benefit.

The present advanced and advancing state of civilisation and knowledge has only been attained by the strenuous exertions and noble sacrifices of patriots and philanthropists of every age; and in the present day there is great call for the untiring zeal and continued labour of the well-disposed.

Amidst this general movement onwards, shall the friends of *Colonisation* stand with folded arms?—does it not behove them to further, with their influence and example, a work whose good fruits have ever been abundant, and are *plenty, happiness, and peace*?

ANGLO-SAXON.

COLONIAL RAILWAYS AND THEIR PROSPECTS.

BY THE EDITOR.

HAVING taken into consideration the railroads announced, or in progress of formation, for the West Indies and British North American Provinces, we now proceed to examine those contemplated for our Colonies in the Eastern Hemisphere, and shall first touch upon those for Australia.

The vast continent of New South Wales seems destined shortly to partake of the benefits of increased English capital and the advantages of railway communication to facilitate the transit of goods and passengers throughout its vast length and breadth. Two or three Companies have taken the subject into consideration in the mother-country, and a useful project has been mooted in the Colony, so that it will not be a very distant day before some steps are taken to carry out this useful work.

A Company under the title of the Australian Railways Company has announced a line from Sydney to Windsor, which seems, however, to be temporarily suspended in consequence of the panic in the home share-market. The required capital was stated to be one million, in 50,000 shares, deposit £2 10s. per share.

According to the prospectus, the proposed railway will commence at Sydney, and be carried near to Newtown and Homebush, to Parramatta, thence to Penrith, in nearly a straight line north of the exist-

ing road, and from thence to Castlereagh, Richmond, and Windsor, with a branch at about two-thirds of the distance from Sydney to Paramatta, leading in a south-westerly direction to Liverpool and Campbeltown.

By this means an opening will be presented at Penrith by the Great Western Road for the immense quantities of wool, stock, and other traffic, which concentrate there from Wellington, Bathurst, and the extensive districts beyond the Blue Mountains; at Campbeltown, by the road from Yass, Goulborne, Barrima, &c., in one direction, and from Appin and Illawarra, in another; and at Paramatta, by the Great North Road from Wallambi and the Hunter.

The population, already large, is fast increasing, and an immense addition to the passenger traffic may be therefore looked for as a natural consequence.

The Colony is just now recovering from the effects of a great monetary panic, and the present is therefore considered an eligible time for the introduction of such a project, and would have been earlier brought under the notice of the public, but the promoters waited the result of their application to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonial Department.

This undertaking will necessarily bring into cultivation a vast additional quantity of land, and thus stimulate further emigration, and hasten the development of the great and valuable resources of these important Colonies.

Another project is on foot under the designation of the Great New South Wales Railway, from Newcastle to Maitland, and from thence to Singleton's Inn, through, or near Black Creek, Bedford, Castle Forbes, and Patrick's Plains, otherwise Darlington.

Arrangements are in progress, under the most favourable auspices, for the construction of a line of railroad across this improving country, the length of which will be about fifty miles, and will effect a saving of nearly one hundred miles over the present circuitous route by the River Hunter, and will furnish railway communication to the different counties and districts of Northumberland, Hunter, Durham, Gloucester, Phillip, Brisbane, and other places, comprising a population, according to the census of 1841, of upwards of 25,000 inhabitants, or nearly one fourth of the whole population of the Colony. There is already a very large traffic in passengers, goods, cattle, coals, and agricultural produce along the line, and there can be no doubt that, by opening the resources of the country, and effecting a saving of distance, time, and expense in the transit, the traffic will be greatly increased, and prove highly remunerative.

A long discussion has been carried on recently in the Sydney papers as to the practicability and desirableness of a railroad from Sydney to Port Phillip, which was suggested by the Rev. Dr. Lang.

The idea originated in the following letter addressed

To the Editor of "*The Port Phillip Patriot*."

Gundagai, 10th March, 1845.

SIR,—Having stopped short for a day or two at this incipient inland town on the banks of the Murrumbidgee River, on my overland journey from Port

Phillip to Sydney, I beg to suggest, for the consideration of your numerous readers, an idea that has struck me very forcibly since my return to the territory of New South Wales proper, and the adoption of which, it appears to me, might tend most materially to advance the interests of Port Phillip, and promote the settlement of that district with reputable free immigrants from the mother-country to a degree scarcely conceivable under the existing circumstances of the Province.

The boundary of the Port Phillip District to the northward is the Hume River. From the Hume River to Melbourne the distance is, in round numbers, two hundred miles; and as the banks of the river for two hundred miles above the crossing-place at Albury, and for a greater distance below it, are occupied by sheep and cattle stations, while the intervening country between Melbourne and Albury is for the most part remarkably level, the idea that occurred to me in traversing this portion of the territory was, that the communication between Albury and Melbourne might be effected, even in the present circumstances of the Province, by means of a railway, at a comparatively small expense, and with inconceivable benefit to the whole District.

The desirableness of such an improvement, for the Province of Port Phillip especially, will scarcely be denied even by those who may perhaps question its practicability—I mean under the existing circumstances of the Province.—

1. It would reduce the period of communication with Melbourne for all persons residing near the extremity of the line to a single day, and to a still shorter period for those residing at intermediate places on or near the line.
2. It would thus bring the whole extent of country to the northern extremity of the District within reach of all the appliances of civilisation.
3. It would open up the whole of that country, including the fertile banks of the Hume River, for a hundred miles both above and below the crossing-place, for the speedy settlement of an agricultural population, wherever this might be practicable or desirable.
4. It would enable the Colonists to dispense with the services of a large proportion of the bullock-drivers that are now employed in maintaining the communication with Melbourne under the existing system; allowing a large number of these persons to be transformed into shepherds, stockmen, or agricultural labourers; dispensing with the horrid oaths and blasphemy that are now so liberally and so profanely expended upon the unfortunate bullocks, as well as with much of the thieving and dissipation that take place along the line; and thereby removing a fruitful source of moral debasement from the community.
5. It would render Melbourne the shipping port not only for the whole extent of the Hume River, but for that of the Murrumbidgee also, and probably for much of the intervening country between the Murrumbidgee and Yass, for the city or town at the inland extremity of the railroad would immediately become a powerful centre of attraction for the whole produce of the country for at least a hundred and fifty miles beyond it on the route to Sydney. In short, the advantages likely to result to Port Phillip from such an undertaking as I have suggested, if carried into effect, would be incalculable.

In regard to the practicability of such an undertaking in the existing circumstances of the Colony, I would observe, that no person who has merely seen or heard of railways in England can have any idea of the applicability of such constructions to countries so very different as the Australian Colonies. Having travelled, however, myself along some of the principal lines in the United States—a country very similar in many respects to our own Colonies—I shall briefly enumerate the points of difference between an English and an American railroad, from which, I flatter myself, it will clearly appear that the difficulties in the way of such an enterprise in a British Colony are much less formidable than might be supposed.

1. In England the ground traversed by the railway is all private property, and must be purchased by the Company forming the road, generally at an enormous cost. In America, on the contrary, it costs nothing, whether private or public property, and it would cost equally little in these Colonies.

2. In England the denseness of the population, and the frequent passing and repassing of trains along the line, render a double line of railway indispensably necessary in every instance—a circumstance which nearly doubles the cost of construction, as compared with America, where a single line, with turnings off

at regular distances, is always found sufficient. When two trains moving in opposite directions meet on an American line, one of them has to back her engine till it reaches the first turning-off place, where it moves off the line for a minute or two till the other is past.

3. In England the velocity with which the train moves along the railway—at the rate of twenty-five, thirty, and sometimes even forty miles an hour—renders it absolutely necessary that the road should be perfectly straight, as the slightest deviation from a right line would infallibly throw an engine moving at such a rate off the rails, and thereby endanger the lives of all the passengers. Causeways must therefore be formed at prodigious expense through intervening mosses or swamps, in constructing railroads in England, as in the case of the causeway across the Chat Moss between Liverpool and Manchester; and hills that lie in the route must also be tunnelled, or bored through. But as railway trains in America are prohibited by an Act of Congress from moving at a more rapid rate than fifteen miles an hour, to prevent accidents from trains moving in opposite directions on a single line, all this expensive work is unnecessary, and the American railroad is merely made to wheel round the hill or swamp, instead of being carried through the one or across the other. On the line from Baltimore to Washington, the direct route would have carried the road right across a deep and apparently impracticable swamp of a circular form, and of a mile or two in diameter, nearly surrounded by hills of moderate elevation; but as this would have been a great deal too costly, besides being quite unnecessary, it is carried round the swamp, and almost describes a circle.

4. In England the rails generally rest on blocks of granite cut to the requisite dimensions, and brought frequently at vast expense from a great distance; but in America the only *matériel* required in the construction of a railway, besides the iron rails, which are imported ready cast from England, is timber, which is found upon the spot almost universally, the only cost being that of cutting it and squaring it into logs of a certain dimension and laying them down.

From all these circumstances, combined railroads generally cost from £15,000 to £25,000 a mile: whereas, in America, the whole line from the Roanoke River in Virginia to Cape Fear River in North Carolina—along which I travelled repeatedly myself through a country whose climate and soil are pretty much like those of this Colony—cost altogether only 7000 dollars, or about £1700, per mile for a distance of upwards of 160 miles. Besides, the Australian timber is much fitter for such a purpose than the American, and will probably last four times as long.

In constructing a railroad in America, the first thing requisite is to clear the line of all standing timber, and then to level it to the breadth required. Sleepers, formed of the timber, and near the line, and squared with the axe to a breadth of about six inches, and a little longer than the width of the road, are then laid down across the intended line at about three feet apart, and a longitudinal sleeper, to bear the rails, is laid across these, and properly pinned down upon them towards each extremity of the transverse sleepers. The cast-iron rails, which are all imported ready-made from England, are then fixed down upon the longitudinal sleepers, and the road is finished. Where deep gullies or other great depressions of the surface occur, they are bridged over with a light framework of timber, and the vast expenditure incurred in such cases in England is saved to the country.

Now, looking at the Port Phillip country from the Hume River to Melbourne, and considering the level character of a large portion of its whole extent, and the comparative facility with which the hills and swamps in the direct route could be rounded—considering also the abundance of timber of the best quality for such a purpose along the greater part of the line, and the comparatively small cost at which sleepers of the requisite dimensions could be supplied at so much per thousand by our Bush carpenters, as well as the practicability of bridging over the numerous gullies that form deep water-courses in times of flood without impeding the rush of the waters—taking into consideration all these particulars, it appears to me that a road from the Hume

River to Melbourne might be constructed at probably not more than £1500 per mile; that is, about £200 per mile cheaper than the American line from the Roanoke in Virginia to Wilmington in North Carolina. I have no idea, however, what the rails would cost here.

In America, as in England, lines of railway are constructed by private Companies, each of which obtains an Act for the purpose, from Parliament in the one case, or from the Legislature of the State traversed by the line in the others. In France, however, the cost of constructing the railway is borne partly by the Government, which forms the line and builds the engines and carriages, and partly by the Department traversed by the line, which furnishes the land. The line, when completed, is farmed out by the Government for the benefit of both parties; the Department electing a board of management, of which the Government appoints the president. Something like the French system would be preferable, and would indeed be the only practicable scheme, for this Colony; and the means I would propose for effecting the object would be a loan from England, secured on the land revenue of the District, under the guarantee of the Home Government.

Two hundred miles of railway, from the Hume River to Melbourne, at the rate of £1500 per mile, would cost £300,000; but the expenditure of that amount—entirely in the wages of labour, with the exception of the cost of the iron rails to be imported from England—would create a prodigious demand for labour in the Province, and would render the contemporaneous importation of numerous free immigrants from the mother-country absolutely necessary. These immigrants would find employment in clearing, levelling, squaring timber, and constructing bridges, &c., &c., during the progress of the undertaking; and at its completion, if not long before, they would be able to settle themselves along the line as small farmers, mechanics, dealers, &c., &c. Now as the Land Act requires that one-half of the proceeds of all land-sales shall be appropriated for the promotion of immigration, while the other half may be devoted towards internal improvements, I would propose that an application should be made by the Port Phillipians, through the Legislative Council, to the Home Government for authority to borrow £600,000, or thereby, on the security of the land revenue of Port Phillip; one-half of that amount to be expended in conveying FREE EMIGRANTS, *and not Penton-villains*, from the mother-country to the Province, and the other to be expended in some such work as the one proposed, to secure these emigrants profitable employment on their arrival, and the means of settling themselves advantageously during its progress.

With a guarantee from the Home Government for the payment of the interest of a loan for such a purpose, the requisite amount could be borrowed in London with perfect facility at $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. This would be only £10,500 for the interest of the whole amount required for the railroad; and whether the Government retained the management of the road in its own hands, or farmed it out to contractors, I have no hesitation in predicting that a revenue of at least four times that amount would be derivable from it in the first instance. At all events, the interest of the loan could be paid with perfect facility, even in the present condition of the Province, from the conveyance of passengers, produce, and supplies along the line, and a sinking fund could be established for paying off the principal. It would be desirable, I conceive, for the Government to retain the property and management of the road in its own hand; for in proportion to the cheapness of the rates of conveyance, would the land and town allotments along the line increase in value. Indeed, the whole cost of such an undertaking would very soon be defrayed from the increased value which it would infallibly give to all land and town allotments along its whole course.

The town of Albury is on this side of the Hume River; this part of the Colony would, therefore, participate in the benefits derivable from that town's becoming so great an emporium of inland commerce, as its situation at the inland extremity of the line of railway to Melbourne would imply. It would infallibly become a great city, and the fertile plains on the Hume would very soon be occupied by an industrious agricultural population.

If it should be said that we ought to have good common roads in this country before we have railroads, I would answer that the very best common road would do very little towards opening up the northern interior and concentrating its commerce upon Melbourne, in comparison with a railroad. The latter would bring Albury within twelve hours of Melbourne, and would place the Murrumbidgee virtually within a hundred miles of this northern capital. The former would in no respect change the position of these localities in respect of each other, for with the best possible common roads the Murrumbidgee would still be as far from Melbourne as it is from Sydney, about three hundred miles or thereby. Besides, it is irrational to argue that because common roads were in use in England long before railroads, we ought to be content with common roads in the first instance here; for in a country so admirably fitted for railway communication as Port Phillip, the sooner the great lines of communication are formed on that principle the better, for the common roads would then be all subsidiary, as they ought to be, to these lines, and a vast expenditure would then be saved to the country in the end. Nay, the objection supposed would hold equally good against our using printing machines for books and papers in the Colonies, because books were multiplied for many centuries before the invention of printing by the slow process of manuscript at home. In short, we have an inherent right to all the improvements of the civilisation of our age whether at home or abroad, and we are arrant fools if we do not avail ourselves of them whenever we can.

I am, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

JOHN DUNMORE LANG.

An anonymous writer in the *Sydney Herald* thus supports the views of Dr. Lang, suggesting, however, the construction of a tramway in the first instance, instead of a railroad traversed by locomotives:—

Having had some experience in railway matters in England, I would beg permission to make a few observations on your recent letter to the Editor of the *Port Phillip Patriot*, respecting the formation of a railway from the Hume River to Melbourne. Acquiescing generally in your views, I shall give some reasons, in addition to those you have mentioned, why such works may be undertaken in this Colony with a reasonable prospect of success, and offer in conclusion a few practical observations on the most advisable method of carrying them into execution.

The fact of railways having been constructed and successfully worked, through countries where the population is thin and scattered, has been too often observed to permit any doubt to rest upon its practicability. Besides the several thousand miles of railway constructed through the dense forests of the United States, there have been extensive works of this nature executed in Cuba, in Russia—from Moscow to St. Petersburg, down to the mouths of the Neva—also from Cracow to Warsaw, and thence to the Baltic shipping ports, and in many other almost desolate territories, showing, in fact, that the smallness of the traffic over such lines is counterbalanced by the cheapness with which, in new or unimproved countries, the works of construction may be executed. In your letter are given four reasons for the excessive cost of the English railways. In the two first of these, namely, the necessity of purchasing the land at a high rate, and the necessity of constructing the roads with double lines of railway, you are perfectly correct, and you might also add, the necessity which exists there of breaking up and restoring again the numerous roads, canals, and other works of art which have already pre-occupied the ground, all of which have to be passed over or under the railway, by expensive bridges and approaches, which causes the cost of the works to be fully double what it would be had no such previous improvements existed.

Your two latter statements are not, however, equally correct, circular curvings of any radius from a third of a mile upwards being used on the English lines, whenever they are found necessary for passing round uneven ground, and the rails being now usually laid on wooden sleepers instead of granite

blocks. Immense excavations and embankments have, however, been formed on the English railways, to make the lines as nearly *level* as possible, in order to enable the carriages to move with the utmost speed, and the cost of those works has been enormously augmented from this cause.

The description given in your letter of the mode of laying the American rails is perfectly correct, and the cost of drainage, and of purchasing and fixing the rails (after the road has been cleared of trees and levelled) averages about 2700 dolrs. or £540 per mile. Supposing the cost here to be £600, and taking your total estimate of £1500 per mile, this will leave £900 per mile to be expended on clearing and levelling the road.

In conclusion, I would beg to suggest for the consideration of yourself and all who may feel disposed to promote an undertaking of this nature, whether it would not be desirable to form a railway to be worked in the first instance by horse power instead of by steam. The following are the reasons which would induce me to prefer the former:—

1. Its cheapness. As locomotive steam-engines cannot surmount hills of any great inclination, a large expenditure for levelling the road is necessary, when they are employed, which will be avoided in the case of a horse railway—also, the whole cost of the machinery itself will be saved.

2. The readiness of its application—machinery must be brought from a distance, is expensive, and liable to disrepair, and requires a costly establishment for its maintenance. Horse power is to be had on the spot, is cheap and easily managed, and will give nearly all the advantages of steam at low rates of speed, as on a horse railway ten or twelve miles an hour may be attained with ease.

3. Diminution of danger. The danger of collision on steam railways, with only a single line of rails, on which carriages are moving in opposite directions, will always cause anxiety to the traveller: in horse lines, on the contrary, no such apprehension will be felt.

4. The railway may be carried through towns and main roads, the rails being laid so as to be even with the ground, and not intercept the general traffic. Much convenience will be thereby gained, and existing interests will be promoted, instead of disturbed.

Upon the whole, I consider that an excellent horse railway may be made for the sum you mention, which will be an inestimable benefit to the district of Port Phillip and to the Colony at large.

Some objections are thrown out by another writer in the *Herald*, Mr. Fred. A. Tompson, who argues that there is no necessity for a railway, and that it can never pay even a fair interest on the outlay.

We give his reasons and arguments, which are, however, ably refuted subsequently by Dr. Lang, who is a man thoroughly acquainted with the geography, capabilities, and statistics of the Colony.

Here are Mr. Tompson's objections:—

Carriage is now so cheap, that responsible men are to be had to convey goods betwixt Gundagai and Sydney at 6s 6d. per cwt., and the carriage by steam, I suspect, would amount to as much. In fact, I am convinced the railway, in the present condition of the country, would not pay its expenses; there is not trade *sufficient*, nor is the traffic *continuous*. Graziers send their produce, of necessity, periodically to market, and get back a half-year's supply of goods. I consider the steam carriage, per railway, would take down to Melbourne in twenty-eight days all the produce raised betwixt the Hume and Port Phillip in a year, and bring back all the supplies required; for the other eleven months it would be idle: there is no agricultural produce to send down, nor sale for it if there was; nor are there, as in America and England, streams of passengers and luggage to assist in maintaining the conveyance.

Dr. Lang observes, "It is irrational to argue that because common roads were in use long before railroads, we ought to be content with common roads in the first instance here; also that we have an inherent right to all the improvements of the civilisation of our age, whether at home or abroad, and we

are arrant fools if we do not avail ourselves of them whenever we can." Roads on which neither art nor labour is expended, are natural roads, and are of the first importance to all new countries—a country which boasts good natural roads, possesses innumerable advantages, as facilities for carriage of produce to market lessens the expense of production, and increases the profit thereon. We of Australia possess this blessing in an eminent degree, and well for us it is so, as, were it otherwise, we could not afford to repair the thoroughfares. Our natural roads are good throughout the interior; they cost us nothing and answer all our purposes. Our means of communication are not rapid, but they are sufficiently so; and no good end would be attained, in the present state of the Colony, by increasing our movements to railway speed. Countries, like men, must crawl until they walk, walk till they run, and run until they can ride. He who beggars himself to buy a horse, when he could do his business profitably afoot, deserves to become bankrupt. I consider it a perfectly rational argument, that, as we cannot afford to obtain a railway at a cost of £600,000, we should be content with our common roads in the first instance. The railways of England and America are the result of their great wealth and enormous inland trade, and it is ridiculous in the extreme to draw a comparison betwixt two such mighty nations and this pigmy Colony. We are doubtless entitled to participate in all "the improvements of the civilisation of our age" that are within our reach, but we are equally "arrant fools" whether we attempt to soar beyond all attainable objects (as instanced in the Fable of the Ox and the Frog) or rest content in weakness and ignorance, when we might, by exertion, grasp on knowledge and power. Some mechanical improvements have reached a degree not to be attained by young countries, and which, in fact, from their expense, are suitable only to great and populous nations: the steam carriage is one of these, and until Port Phillip has increased its exports by several hundreds per cent., can raise the necessary funds for a railway within herself, and a continuous stream of emigration has set its current towards her shores, she will not be in a position to dispense with her natural roads, or employ a steam carriage.

Now the principal number of passengers to and from Melbourne and Sydney proceed per steamer, and the erection of a railway at the Hume would in no wise prevent this; parties would have to ride 500 miles in the mail from Sydney to reach the terminus, and those from Melbourne, after riding 200 miles on the railway, must come on the other 500 by the mail; in this way water-communication must destroy the trade of the railway for passengers, either direct to Sydney or Melbourne. Those who do come overland per mail do not exceed 100 in a year, if so many, and at 10s. per head would give the projector £25; or, sufficient to pay the booking clerk's salary. The amount to be derived from the transit of wool, I cannot correctly, or by conjecture, arrive at; but perhaps you may be able to lay your hand on some statistical paper, of the number of bales exported last year from the southern capital, the produce of its own territory; and if so, I am content to give the railway credit for every bale at 15s. per bale, as though it had all been carried from the terminus; and, although it is more than we should pay for the conveyance of a bale of wool the same distance by a licensed carrier, yet when this is done, and a sum equal to half the amount added thereto for the conveyance of goods back, the yearly expenses and interest on the loan deducted, then I feel convinced the railway will be in debt. When do they expect to convey 27,000 passengers from the Hume to Melbourne in a year?

From Dr. Lang's second letter replying to Mr. Thompson, we have only room to publish those passages which have a practical tendency or bear specially upon the points at issue.

In my humble opinion, it is accordant with the plainest and most undeniable deductions of common sense, that in a country presenting so highly favourable a field for the beneficial expenditure of British capital for the speedy accom-

plishment of objects of vast importance to the community, and which cannot otherwise be accomplished, it would be the wisest possible policy in certain cases, to pledge the public credit for the loan of such capital, (at the British rates of interest), for the accomplishment of such objects. And I maintain, without the slightest fear of contradiction, that the construction of a railroad from Melbourne to the Hume River, and the introduction of well-selected immigrants into the Port Phillip District to the extent of £300,000 for each of these objects, are precisely such objects as would warrant the contracting of such a loan—the incurring of such an expenditure.

Mr. Tompson's supposition that £21,000 a year of interest would require to be paid from the first, and for three years at least before any return from any part of the expenditure could be realised, is altogether unreasonable and unfounded. The money would only be borrowed gradually in proportion to its actual expenditure, and if that expenditure were effected judiciously, there would very soon be a partial at least, and a constantly-increasing return from it. For instance, that portion of the road which would necessarily be constructed first would be the portion extending from Melbourne to the Goulburn River, a distance of sixty-five miles, and decidedly the most populous portion of the entire line. Now, the construction of this portion of the line would, independently of the present population along its course, call into existence a large and populous town on the Goulburn, for the extensive country both above and below the present crossing place on that river, besides one or two other minor towns or villages between the Goulburn and Melbourne; taking it for granted all the while that there were a contemporaneous and copious stream of immigration from the mother-country flowing into the Province. And I maintain, without the slightest fear of contradiction from practical men of any class in society, that from the period of the completion of this part of the line, the revenue from the conveyance of passengers, goods, and produce, along its course, would far more than pay the interest (I mean at a British rate) of the whole amount of the capital expended in its construction. However, I never contemplated the absurdity which Mr. T. gratuitously gives me credit for, of employing the whole amount of the immigrant labour in the construction of the proposed railroad. I merely proposed that there should be such a contemporaneous amount of immigration as to keep the supply of valuable labour for all purposes constantly up to the demand throughout the District.

Such an undertaking, however, would infallibly have another and a highly salutary effect upon the social system. It would immediately raise the real value of all land available for agricultural purposes along the line to a much higher rate than even a pound an acre, and would enable the Government to sell thousands and tens of thousands of acres at that rate, whether the present minimum price were lowered or not. Such land would then be cheap at that rate, and would gladly be purchased to a vast extent, together with town allotments at all the stopping-places, by agricultural labourers and mechanics of all classes, from the produce of their earnings. The increased and constantly-increasing land revenue would thus be available almost from the first, not only in paying the interest of the whole debt contracted, but in diminishing the amount which it would be necessary to borrow.

The next important point on the route from Melbourne to the Hume River is the Broken River, about sixty-five miles from the Goulburn; along this stream, or rather chain of ponds, there are many sheep and cattle stations and much good land, as well as in various localities on the way to it. The crossing-place would therefore form an eligible site for another Colonial inland town, and as soon as the railroad should reach this point, the same process would be repeated as before—population would advance and concentrate along the line, land and town allotments would be purchased, traffic of all kinds would increase, and a large revenue would be realised both from the road and from the sale of land.

The next stage would be the Ovens River, the crossing-place of which is

thirty miles from the Broken River, and fifty from the proposed terminus of the Hume. I do not suppose that three years would be sufficient for the completion of the entire line. I rather think it would take at least five or seven; but whatever time it might take to reach any given point, whether the Broken River, the Ovens, or the Hume, it is unquestionable that with a contemporaneous stream of immigration flowing into the Province, the state of these localities would be very different as to population and general resources at the close of that period from what it is now. It is of the nature of a railroad or canal to create employment for itself along its whole line.

I am confident that in the Port Phillip District alone there is land enough of the first quality to form agricultural and other settlements for the whole of the redundant population of Great Britain, for half a century to come. And it was in order to accelerate the formation of such settlements in that district, and thereby to transfer to a land of plenty, from their periodical seasons of starvation at home, thousands and tens of thousands of the redundant population of Britain, that I recommended, and still earnestly recommend, the contracting of a loan of British capital—to be secured on the land revenue of Port Phillip at a British rate of interest—to the amount of £600,000 altogether; one half to be expended in the construction of a railroad from Melbourne to the Hume River, and the other in immigration. I am fully persuaded of the soundness of my views, as well as the practicability; and I maintain unhesitatingly, that as there are cases in which the public revenue may be safely pledged for the interests of a debt to be contracted for the accomplishment of any great public object of undoubted utility that cannot otherwise be accomplished, this is one of the very clearest of such cases.

I may, doubtless, be mistaken in supposing that £1500 per mile would be

River, although the data on which I found that estimate—the cost of the Roanoke line and the price of labour in this Colony as compared with its price in America precludes the possibility of any great mistake. But even supposing that the actual cost might be £2,000 per mile, which I cannot think it would amount to, the case would not be greatly altered for the worse—the interest payable on the whole amount requisite would then be £14,000 per annum instead of £10,500.

A well-informed and very candid correspondent of yours, while approving of the general idea of the construction of a railroad from Melbourne to the Hume River, is of opinion that horse-power would be much cheaper on such a road than steam-power, and that a railroad for horse-power might be carried over intervening hills instead of pursuing in some cases a much more circuitous course around them. I confess, however, I cannot agree with him, for the following reasons:—

1. The cost of the road, as well as that of cars for passengers and drays for produce and goods, would be precisely the same in both cases; but the cost and management of a single steam-tender which would carry a train along the whole line in one day would be a mere trifle compared with the cost and expense of management of the numerous relays of horses that would be required to perform the whole journey in two days. The time would be doubled, and so I fear would be the expense.

2. Although a single horse may suffice to drag a train of many tons weight, at a pretty smart pace too, along a level railroad, he cannot drag such a train upon an inclined plane, and the tendency to descend in such a case, whether in ascending or descending, would be dangerous in the extreme to both man and horse, passengers and drivers. In America the railroads are carried right through the largest cities, as in Philadelphia and Baltimore for example; but the steam-tender is always turned off in the suburbs, and a team of horses, generally four, is attached to the train till it reaches the other extremity of the city. The Americans, however, never attempt to carry a railroad, either for horse or steam-power, over a hill.

An immigration of five thousand adults per annum, which would cost from £75,000 to £100,000 yearly, could at present be absorbed with perfect facility by the District of Port Phillip, so as to leave a sufficient number of labourers for the railroad; and if these labourers were properly selected at home, it is morally certain that a large proportion of the wages of their labour would return to the Treasury for the purchase of land, and enable the Government to keep up the supply. And will any man tell me that it is not the interest of Port Phillip to pledge the land revenue of the district for the payment of the interest of the British capital required to effect such an immigration, especially if that capital can be procured (as it unquestionably can with a Government guarantee) at three and a half per cent.? That man must surely have a strangely constituted mind who will assert that it is not.

* * * * *

As Mr. Tompson acknowledges that he draws entirely upon his fancy in supposing that the revenue from the conveyance of passengers travelling to and from Sydney, by a railroad from Melbourne to the Hume River, might not do more than pay the booking clerk's salary, I should be sorry to distrust him in so entirely fanciful, so very irrational a conclusion. The conveyance of passengers travelling to and from Sydney did not, I confess, however, enter very materially into my calculations as to the probable result of the undertaking in the way of revenue. These calculations were founded on the reasonable, and not fanciful, anticipations of the result of the opening up and speedy settlement of a most valuable tract of country, extending two hundred miles to the northward of Melbourne, and of which Melbourne, not Sydney, is the natural outlet. They were founded on the well-known fact, that the Hume River, at the northern terminus of the proposed line, is already occupied by squatting stations for two hundred miles above the present crossing-place, and for a still greater distance below it, and that a vast extent of land on both banks of that noble river is immediately available for the settlement of an agricultural population. They were founded, moreover, on the certainty, that in the event of the construction of such a road, the produce of the Murrumbidgee country, for one hundred and fifty miles towards Sydney from the Hume River, would take the southern in preference to the northern route. Now, that this vast extent of country would not afford constant and remunerating employment for a railroad from Melbourne to the Hume River, in five or six years hence, supposing an extensive immigration to take place in the interval, I cannot believe.

In May, Dr. Lang having had put into his hands Mr. Prosser's pamphlet on wooden railways, resumes his pen, and, in an able letter in the *Sydney Herald*, fortifies his previous arguments by allusion to this cheap system of laying down railways, and sums up thus:—

Now it appears to me that this invention (which is valuable at home chiefly in the way of establishing subsidiary railways, at a comparatively cheap rate) is peculiarly adapted to this Colony, and will. I have no doubt, very soon come into general requisition throughout the territory, wherever the nature of the country and the general circumstances of the community shall warrant its adoption. The average cost of the construction of English railroads with iron rails has, it seems, been £25,000 per mile; but railways can be constructed on the new principle at £5,000 per mile, with various important advantages, of which the more expensive lines are destitute; the wooden rails and sleepers on the new principle being of beech or Scotch fir. But as the freight and all other charges would render the iron rails much more expensive here than they are in England, while the timber required for the construction of wooden railways in this country would only cost the price of the labour employed in felling and preparing it for use, the difference of cost, and the consequent value of the invention, would be much greater with us than at home. Besides, I think there is every

reason to believe that our timber is much fitter for such purposes than even the English beech or Scotch fir. A curvature of any radius, or in any direction, can be described on the new principle with perfect safety, even at a velocity of 24 to 40 miles an hour; carriages of lighter construction and of much less cost than on the iron railways may be used; and the dead level of the present lines can be varied, either by moderate ascents or by moderate descents, whenever the nature of the country to be traversed requires it, without danger.

In short, if this invention answers the description of it in the pamphlet, and I have no doubt it does, it is unquestionably destined to effect wonderful and incalculable changes in this Colony, and prodigiously accelerate its progressive settlement and general advancement. Without water communication of any kind, except along our sea-coast, and with an inexhaustible supply of the best timber in the world for the construction of railways, in all parts of the territory; with a thinly-scattered population, divided into small communities, by extensive tracts of sterile country, in which the construction and keeping up of good roads will always be exceedingly expensive in proportion to the population requiring them, and with a climate subject to severe droughts, in which communication even by the best lines of road is frequently almost impracticable from the difficulty in procuring subsistence in dry seasons for draught cattle; there is probably no country under the sun which will derive more benefit from the practicability of constructing cheap wooden railways, with the advantages I have enumerated, than New South Wales; and it appears to me to be a beautiful and most beneficent arrangement of Divine Providence that such an invention should have come into operation just at the moment when the Colony is emerging from its chrysalis state, and looking around it for outlets and means of communication in every direction.

It remains for those who are more immediately interested to make the experiment, by forming, perhaps, an experimental line on the said principle of construction from Melbourne to one or other of the more populous localities in its neighbourhood. If a "little-go" of this kind should succeed, there would of course be the more encouragement to try the "great go," from Melbourne to the Hum- River. At all events, I anticipate great changes for the better in this Colony, as a vast and most eligible field for emigration from the mother-country, from Mr. Prosser's invention.

(To be continued.)

REMINISCENCES OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA.

BY CHARLES F. ELLERMAN, ESQ.,

AUTHOR OF "THE AMNESTY; OR, THE DUKE OF ALBA IN FLANDERS;" &c. &c.

CHAPTER XIII.

The Description of a VELORIO, or a Wake at the Havana---Mr. Smith's strange Adventure on the Night of the 9th of November.

WE met on the following morning at the breakfast-table rather later than usual. Mrs. Smith and her niece looked none the worse for the supper; but as to the worthy citizen, he wore the appearance of a man who had expended large sums for an election, and had been defeated.

"What ails you?" inquired I.

"It's all Peabody's fault."

"Peter, dear, had you not taken so much champagne, you would not have mistaken a dead woman for your own dear lawful loving wife. You had no business to leave the hotel at that time of night, not for all the Peabodys in the universe; and when you came home, you smelt like an undertaker."

"Mrs. Smith!"

"Now, Peter, you know you did—just like musk, you did, and prevented my closing an eye with the thoughts. Ugh! Peabody has much to account for. A pretty adventure, indeed! and that with a dead woman, too!"

"If it was only with a dead woman," said I, "no harm was done: but tell us, Mr. Smith, what happened."

"I scarcely remember, but have some faint idea that a walk after supper would do me good. I recollected the saying,

'After dinner sit a while,
After supper walk a mile,'

and walk I would. Well, I had got hold of Peabody's arm, and was singing a stanza of that song you wrote—the only one I recollected—about being dubbed a knight, when all of a sudden I fancied I saw a rare flare-up. Peabody, who had imbibed as much wine as he could possibly stow away, was, as he calls it, quite onswaggered, and he pinched my arm so unmercifully, that I roared loudly, and began to see a little plainer than I had done before. 'Mercy on us, where are we?' said I.

"'In the infernal regions, for aught I know,' says Peabody; 'but were it Satan himself seated or reclining on his sombre throne, we'll in and ask him how he does.'"

"'It's a woman,' says I.

"'So much the better,' says he; 'we shall ask her how she likes the River Styx.'"

" 'Sticks!' says I, 'what has she or those candles to do with sticks? we had better cut ours.'

" 'No such thing,' said he; 'we'll in and have a peep at the ceremony, which is no more nor less than a *velorio*.'

" 'What exhibition's that?' said I.

" 'What the Irish call a wake,' said he; 'and I'll be bound that there is some jolly good cheer inside, enough to keep all the company awake, although the mistress of the house is stretched upon that pyramid as dead as a herring.'

" Well, I began to tremble; for as I peeped through the iron bars into the room and beheld the ghastly countenance of the dead woman as she lay stretched out upon a sort of altar about nine or ten feet high, I thought of the yellow fever. Although I was what we Londoners call mellow, nevertheless I recollect everything as well as if it had happened after breakfast. It was an awful sight, sir, and the perspiration even now filters through the pores of my hands as I think of it. I stared into the place through the iron bars; the room was deserted by all save the corpse, for such it was. The good woman was dressed in what I should suppose her best black silk gown, a black veil ornamented her head, and she had more rings on her fingers than Mrs. Smith possesses to this hour—and goodness knows she has dozens."

" Now, Peter, you know I have only twenty-seven, and you promised me——"

" That's twenty-six too many, duck; a wedding-ring is quite enough in these bad times, and you know I hate trinkets.—Well, sir, the corpse was covered with gems and gold chains: it was only surprising no one attempted to rob the defunct—Peabody said they would have boned her in London, wax-lights and all. It was the horriddest sight I ever saw. On her eyes they had poured boiling wax, to close them; but one of them had opened, and stared fearfully from the left side—I think the poor woman squinted."

" Lor, Peter, don't talk so, or I shall dream of the corpse all night!"

" Well, it was quite horrid; and I feel quite ill when I think of what happened to me—excuse me, but I've the cold shivers."

" I hope she did not die of the womuts."

" More likely of the jaundice, for she was as yellow as an orange, with her mouth wide open. Just as I was going to run away, Peabody dragged me into the house, telling me that there was lots of fun going on inside. Peabody is a muscular American, a second Hercules, so I knew it were folly for me to attempt to get away, especially as he did not know what he was about. We entered the house; he lifted up the black curtains, and thrust me into the presence of grim Death. I stood like Lot's wife, an immoveable pillar. I could not raise a hand, nor move a foot; and all the while that horrible eye was fixed upon me, the wax-light threw an unearthly sort of glare upon the body, and I fancied two or three times that I saw the features move—I thought the eye winked; at last, by a most extraordinary effort, I regained locomotion, and finding myself alone with the dead, I effected a rapid re-

treat, and should have gained the street-door had not that provoking Yankee seized my arm.

"'Smith,' said he, 'there is more to be seen here than you imagine. You may have read of strange things, which your philosophy may not have credited, because your eyes had not seen them—see now and believe. In that room which you have just quitted, the departed lays in state; in that apartment sits the disconsolate husband; and yonder are the guests talking politics or business, whilst the young people are making love.'

"'Love!' exclaimed I,—'making love in the house of the dead!'

"'Fact, I assure you. I'll be bound that a match will come out of this affair. Wakes are glorious opportunities for the popping of questions, and young people make it a point of business to attend them. Come with me, and you shall see.'

"We entered the second room, and found the widower surrounded by a few friends, who whispered consolation. As we were unknown to the parties, we kept as much aloof as possible from the family circle. Notwithstanding I felt rather giddy from the quantity of wine I had taken, I was enabled to perceive that many persons who came in smiling, put on doleful countenances as they approached and consoled with the master of the house. I remarked that they all shortly afterwards sneaked into the back apartments, whither we presently followed them. Oh! what a contrast with the one we had just left, where a miserable unbleached wax candle flickered in a glass shade, in which countless musquitoes burnt their wings and legs, singing most dolefully as they bobbed about in torture and agony. There was barely light enough to distinguish a person's features in that melancholy reception-room; but in the back parlours there was no lack of light, animation, and gaiety. Had the old lady come to life again, there would not have been half so much rejoicing."

"How can you say so, Peter?"

"It stands to reason, my dear. She died and left a large fortune; you know people do not like to be disappointed, and often care more for money than for relatives."

"Most true, Mr. Smith," said I; "that's what Peabody would call a *fact*."

"And fact it is, I'm pretty certain," said Mr. Smith, "that if I could have slipped on the old lady's gown and veil, they would have scampered off in grand style."

"As it was, Peter, you——"

"Do not interrupt me, nor forestall the effect of my adventure, my dear."

"Well, sir, the back rooms were filled with people, who were eating, drinking, and smoking: negroes were serving coffee, lemonade, and ices, to those who wished to refresh themselves; the young folks were flirting, and the young ladies, I assure you, were as gay as if they had met to make merry, but not to mourn. I looked upon these Creoles as the strangest people on earth, when Peabody reminded me of the Irish,

and then I could not help thinking of the splendid wake they will have when O'Connell dies : for die he must some day, and a glorious time it will be for the Irish to drink and make merry, when Repeal and Agitation lie laid out with a lot of wax-candles round their bed."

"Peter, dear, that is neither here nor there; go on with the hadventure."

"So I will, dear, and confound Repeal and he that invented such rascality ! As the night waned, the company increased, and we discovered among the crowd, for such I may call it, several acquaintances. We were more particularly drawn towards one of the back rooms, whence issued peals of laughter loud enough to wake any one save the dead. We managed to squeeze ourselves through a group of smokers who blockaded the door, and we found the room filled with the thoughtless and the gay, who seemed not to care a jot for death, nor to sympathise with the widower and the motherless children. As I gazed round the apartment with wonder and amazement, I was startled from my dream by some person slapping me on the shoulder, exclaiming,

" 'Don Pedro Smith ! *vaya, vaya*, vat you do here, gentleman ?'

"It was the celebrated Doctor Don Maria Ramon Castrigas, of the Junta de Sanidad.

" 'Came to see the dead woman, Doctor,' said I.

" '*Pobre sito*—yes, Donna Pepeiya is gone dead,' says the Doctor ; 'all die, Gentleman Smith, all die in *esto mundo*, and we Creoles go dead with—what you call it ?'

" 'Want of breath ?' said I.

" 'No, no, *allegro*—I mean—*hombre ! diablos*, what you call dat ?'

" 'Oh,' said I, 'devil-me-care, I suppose you mean—no fear of death.'

" '*Estó*, that is vat I mean ; Creoles no fear death—not so Don Jonathano.'

" 'That is it,' said Peabody, 'and you are the queerest people I ever came across. Who attended Donna Pepeiya ?'

"The Doctor bowed and proceeded to tell us that he had had that honour ; that she had been seized with vomitings—that he, as a matter of course, had, *à la Sangrado*, bled her copiously, and inundated her with warm water, but all to no effect—that the more he had bled her, the giddier she grew, till at last death, (and, he might have added, himself,) had put an end to her giddiness. He concluded by saying that she had lived and died like an angel, and that if he could not have saved her, no one else, not even Sir Astley Cooper nor Dupuytren, could have prevented her from paying the great debt to nature. Don Maria Ramon Castrigas was a fatalist, and maintained through thick and thin, that if he could not overcome a malady, it was because the Fates had decreed it as an impossibility.

"When the Doctor had concluded his sort of funeral oration, in which he singularly blended praises on the defunct, and comments upon his own skill and vast experience in chirurgery, it was proposed by some of the younger portions of the assembly, that they should beguile the time

which preceded supper by some innocent games, such as blind man's buff, or hunt-the-slipper. The latter was carried by a vast majority, and Peabody and myself found ourselves constrained to play at hunt-the-slipper in honour of the defunct. I did not like it. I remembered how differently we pass the time in England when our dear relations lie dead in the house; how the family meet in solemn silence, how sobs and prayers alternately occupy the time 'twixt death and the funeral ceremony, and how serious and painful it is to part from those we love, who have gone, either to a world of torture or to one of bliss; who alone know the important secret we all fain would know, which keeps us constant in the fear of death."

"You are growing quite eloquent, uncle," observed Miss Hardy: "if Mr. M'Guinness were here, he would surely quote Shakspeare, and say,

'Dar'st thou die?

The sense of death is more in apprehension.'

And, from what I have seen, it strikes me that the inhabitants of Cuba have no fear of death, that they look upon it as the transition from one country to another."

"For my part I admire them," said I. "Are we not told that this life is but a pilgrimage, and that we shall be rewarded according to our deserts in another? If such be the case, why lament and mourn? it were cruelty to recal those we love, to a world of iniquity, of sorrowing, and of constant disappointment.

'What's yet in this,
That bears the name of life? Yet in this life
Lie hid more thousand deaths; yet death we fear,
That makes these odds all even.'

Now, Mr. Smith, pray go on with your account of hunt-the-slipper."

"We formed ourselves into a ring, and the game commenced. I observed certain young gentlemen seated by the side of their lady-loves, stealing kisses under the plea of looking for the slipper; others whispering soft nothings, which put me in mind of the days when I was courting you, my dear. But I had little time for reflection, for seated beside me was a buxom widow, who pretended that I had got the slipper."

"I hope you did not kiss her, Peter."

"Me!"

"If I thought you had,—I'd scratch her eyes out of her head."

"You know, Polly, I never was fond of kissing; and as to embracing strange women, that is a thing quite out of the question."

"Aha! how d'ye do to-day, Smith?" said Mr. Peabody, entering the apartment. "Ladies, I guess I see you well—talkin of kissin, I suppose—Oh, that widdier woman, wasn't she infernal sly! I'll tell you what it is, Mrs. Smith, it's a good thing I was off't'other side of her, else Smith would have had her all to himself. But I won't interrupt the story: go on, Smith."

Mrs. Smith looked the colour of milk-and-water. Mr. Smith could not go on.

" Ah! ah! ah! well, it was amusin arter all. I never larfed so much in my blessed life as at that *veloria* of last night. Talk of Irish wakes, why, Paddy ben't half as awake as them Creoles, and the gals are brim-full of fun—one can't be obstropolis with them, that's a fact. You should ha' been there, Mrs. Smith, you should; it would ave done your art good to see the mourners so merry and gay. You would ave thought it was a weddin. Then we had sich rompin, sich tuggin, sich larfin, sich screechin, and so on. I guessed I should have died, and the tears trotted down my cheek like the falls of the Nigara to see Smith so onfakalized, for the widder woman kept speakin Spanish to your husband, and rompin with him—ay, and you seemed to like it, Smith—fact, I assure you. Presently the game died a natural death, and we all went to sup. Such a supper! The Doctor was chairman, and I was the vice. Mr. Smith and me, somehow, had the widder again, atween us; she was so fascinatin, and kept oscillating her fan, which kept us cool and fresh. Tow and fire, but she's as fine a built woman as I ever met with in the States, and her neck and shoulders quite swan-like—made me feel completely flabbergasted.

" She was a very wicked, designing woman," said Mrs. Smith, looking Billingsgate-like.

" A frollikin widder, mem—all widders are full of fun, and it's for us men to beware on 'em; you recollect what Sam Weller said about widders?"

" Sam Weller was an ignorant fellow and a coachman," observed Mrs. Smith.

" He was, mem—he was, though it appears he had great experience, and his passions, you know, had ceased actin. The widder had a pretty hand, hadn't she, Smith? such nails and fingers, taperin like a sperm candle, quite transparent like—I could see the arteries as plain as the cotton wick, and they looked quite blue, filled, as the Spaniards calls it, with *sangre azur*, which denotes noble extraction."

" A sly hussy! she'd have absconded with Peter, had he been single."

" Nonsense," murmured Mr. Smith.

" Oh no, she would not have fetched sich romantic ideas anyhow—the dear little woman was only bent upon some fun and frolic, and she plied your husband with wine, till he clearly saw double, that's a fact—but I must not spin too long a yarn. Jist as she was fillin a bumper, the *serino* (watchman) sang out, that it was half-past three and a fine night. I hinted the hour, but Smith said he would not go home till mornin, and I guessed there was no use in forcin a man to leave a pretty crittur against his inclination, specially when it was all inuicent flartin. At last Smith talked of goin home to beó, and began ravin about curtain lectures, of which the widder knew nothing, as their beds have no curtains, only mosquiteros, you know. In the midst of the noise and uproar we suddenly missed Mr. Smith."

" And the widow—where was she?" inquired Mrs. Smith, looking quite alarmed.

" A smilin by my side—I do not know what would have been the

result of that smile, which half fixed me, and I was goin to say somethin about sympathy, when one of the niggers came runnin into the supper room, looking parboiled with fright.

" ' *Dottore* ! ' cries he—' *Dottor Castrigas—Valgame Dios*, but mistress is come to life !'

" ' *Vaya—Vaya* ! ' cried the Doctor—' you're drunk.'

" ' *Madre di Dios*, I heard her snore.'

" ' Snore, did you say ?'

" ' She snores like a bull—*su merced* had better come and see,' replied the slave.

" ' Does she move at all ? ' inquired some one.

" ' Move ! I expect she'll soon be here if you don't look to my mistress,' said the slave, peepin through the door, and shiverin like a poodle on a winter's day.

" I confess I felt quite flabbergasted. The widder had fainted, the gals looked petrified, and the Doctor was fixed to his chair, every moment expectin to see his virtuous ghost. As to the nuns, they began crossin themselves, and were only roused from their fears to be thrown into greater alarm, by another nigger rushing into the room, crying,

" ' *Ave Maria purissima ! mi ama e viva*.'

" Here was a go ! The dead woman was alive—alive, and snorin ! ' Doctor,' says I, ' half measures won't do ; we must go and see what has happened. I, for my part, think that she be still as dead as mutton, and who knows but that some one else is a snorin to play us a trick ? Let us go in a body—Union gives strength, so says the Belgian Motto.'

" By this time the widder and the other gals had come to their senses,—for it was all sham on their parts, I reckoned. We then in a body went into the room where lay the corpse. We stopped at the threshold and listened. Lor ! how our hearts beat ! Mine amost came out of my mouth, but I fortunately swallowed it again afore chokin me. I could see the widder's heart beat as plain as the pendulum of a clock, and hear it too ; and her lovely bosom rose and fell like the tide at New York in spring-time, only quicker. We listened, but all was still as death, and the corpse looked unmeanin like, from the half-closed, squintin wax eye, jist like a dead codfish, that's a fact, at a fishmonger's. We looked at each other, and Doctor Castrigas was jist a going to larf, when, by the holy poker, one of the loudest moans, followed by a roaring snore, made us all start. It was horrid, and the women screamed, for they saw the dead body move.

" ' Tow and fire, says I, ' what's all this ? ' Well, I'll be blow'd if it did not strike me that I knew the sound of that snorin. I guessed I had heard it afore now, and I was right. Heedless of the screams of the galls, and the tuggin and pullin of the widder, whom I dragged after me right up to the catafalco, when she left go my hand and fell on the floor, I ascended the steps ; and there I found my dear friend Smith, lyin as comfortable as may be, beside the corpse, a snorin as lustily as a bull."

" ' What are you after now ? ' says I, diggin my fingers into his ribs,

when up he jumps, and stared like wild. Well, it was a good joke after all. Excuse me, mem, but he said, 'Polly, my dear, I'll never do so again;' and all this time he was looking at the dead woman. 'Hal-loa!' says I, 'what the deuce brought you here? you can't sleep here to-night, Mr. Smith, that's sartin.'

"Bless your heart, you should have seen his agility! The moment he caught a glimpse of the wax-lights and the woman's eye, he turned as white as a sprat, and dropped off the pyramid in grand style, knocking down half a dozen lights, scamperin away as if Old Scratch was arter him for good. Luckily he was stopped by the crowd that blocked up the doors, and we had a good larf; had we not, Smith?"

"Oh, the nasty man! he recollects nothing about it," observed Mrs. Smith. "If ever you take too much wine again, Peter, we'll have a divorce, we will. What *will* they say in London when this feat of yours becomes known? I shall never sleep comfortable with you again, Peter; and that smell of musk"

"Was awful," said Mr. Peabody, "perfectly oppressive, jist like an undertaker; but I will tell you what it is. Mrs. Smith, your good husband has seen a sight he never perhaps will see again."

"I should hope not," said Mr. Smith, "and truth the good woman is buried by this time."

"Safe enough, or else she is on her way to the cemetery," murmured Peabody; "but you have seen what I call a most extraordinary sight. You have seen a Havanese *velorio*, or wake, and what is more, played one of the principal parts in it, one which will not so soon be forgotten by you or those who witnessed it, I guess. I was very sorry for the poor husband, who looked quite terrified at the thoughts of a resurrection, and appeared delighted when we left the corpse and the wax-lights to themselves. How we cut home! didn't we, Smith?"

"I have but a faint recollection of the whole affair," said Mr. Smith. "I thought when I le't the supper table that I was quietly going to bed, instead of which—let us cut the subject, or I shall dream of it for the next six months, and that dreadful eye haunts my imagination."

"Be it so," said Peabody; "and in order to beguile time, I propose a visit to the Cathedral, which you have not seen. I am told that there is to be grand mass to-day, which is partikilarly magnificent, and will give you some idea of the manner of workmanship in these parts. People who travel must see everything, and I wish you had gone as far as the cemetery to see the funeral—it's more curiqus than any sight in Massachussets, I guess."

CHAPTER XIV.

The Party meet with the Funeral Procession and witness the Ceremony---The Cemetery at the Havana---High Mass at the Cathedral, and the Tomb of Christopher Columbus.

THE *volantes* were ordered, and we stepped into them, notwithstanding that it wanted only a few minutes to eleven, and mass commenced at twelve.

"We will jist take a drive along the sea-shore," said Mr. Peabody; "the breeze will do us good, and blow away the smell of musk."

"What a tantalising man that American is!" observed Mrs. Smith; "he leads my poor husband into all sorts of messes. I'm certain he's after no good—mark my words!"

"He is a man of vast information," was my reply. "He has travelled and seen much of the world, and wishes others to do the same."

"He had no business to take Peter to the wake."

"I rather suspect Mr. Smith took himself there."

"He never did such things in London."

"Perhaps not. He is a man of importance in the city, and must needs mind his P's and Q's; here he is nobody, not even an elector."

"Dear me, what is that crowd?—what a motley crew!—negroes wearing cocked hats, in glaring liveries and knee breeches."

"Something like the Lord Mayor's Show, is it not?"

"Bless me, yes, what can it be? As I live, the negroes are carrying wax tapers, and I do believe it is a funeral."

Mrs. Smith was not mistaken; it was the last journey Dona Pepeiya had to perform on this earth. The hearse, which I believe is the only vehicle at the Havana that is posted upon four wheels, was followed by a vast number of priests and monks, singing a most doleful dirge; after them came a legion of slaves, all dressed in the costume above described, bearing wax tapers, looking the most grotesque figures that Europeans ever set eyes upon. We almost deem it an act of cruelty to squeeze a nigger into knee breeches, he looks so ridiculous perspiring (we might use a more vulgar, but appropriate term,) under the weight of the gaudy and gorgeous livery he wears. All this punishment is inflicted upon our *poor black brethren* to swell the procession, and give it an air of vast importance.

As the procession advanced, Peabody made signs to us to admire the air and deportment of some of the *Livery*, whose cocked hats swung to and fro, threatening every moment to kiss the dust; after the negroes came the relations and friends of the deceased, in quitrins, each occupied by one person, looking as if they were going to Change. We followed the line of vehicles through the gate called *La Panta*, which leads to the state prison called *San Lazaro*, erected on the borders of the sea. This prison commands a most magnificent view of the sea and the entrance to the harbour. By degrees we left this abode of misery behind us, and having reached the cemetery, we alighted in order to witness the ceremony. This burial-ground offers nothing remarkable, and, un-

like the celebrated cemetery of Père Lachaise at Paris, it is almost void of monuments. Children might search in vain for the last resting-place of their parents, or the latter for those they have lost in the flower of youth. The rich and the poor, the white and the black, are all interred *pêle-mêle*, heedless of rank and station. When the earth is quite filled, the bones are dug up, and thrown into the four corners of the cemetery, where they form pyramids which become blanchèd with the rays of the sun. This last resting-place (until disturbed by the sexton) of bustle and life is divided into four compartments: one of them is destined for the Governors, for the General Officers of the Army, for the Bishops, and the Clergy; each settler being distinguished by a stone upon which these headings are sculptured. A small chapel stands in the middle, and it is only near this spot that a few sepulchres are to be discerned—they mark the resting-place of some of the nobility. In other respects there are no signs, no crosses, nor monuments, whereby a person can find the tomb of a friend or relative. If he wishes to discover their bones a few years after interment, he must search the ossuaries which disgrace the four corners of this cemetery, for there they lie promiscuously, mixed with those of the slaves he or they despised, or the shopkeeper they looked down upon. Zounds! what a LEVELLER old Death is—there is none so republican or democratic as he!

As in most other countries, it was customary at the Havana, up to the commencement of this century to inter in the churches, and in vaults constructed for that purpose. This system—we might call it, this disgusting fashion—was attended with serious inconvenience; the effluvia caused by so many bodies piled one above the other, in so limited a compass, engendered typhus, and other contagious diseases; and the Bishop of the Havana, Senor Espada, who was a sensible man, pointed out the danger attendant on so unnatural a mode of disposing of the dead. He obtained permission to make a cemetery at a little distance from the town, which he purchased with his own means, and, like the formidable Council of Three at Venice, who decreed that all the gondolas of the Republic should be painted *black*, and ornamented solely with *black* cloth, so as to prevent the aristocracy from outvying each other in ornamenting their floating vehicles too luxuriously—he, like a true disciple of our Saviour, ordained, that no monuments whatsoever should be erected, and that no land might be purchased for burial, so as to prevent the establishment of any difference between the resting-place of the rich and the poor!

Would that some of our well-paid and well-fed bishops would think a little more of the welfare and salubrity of their flocks, by pointing out that nefarious and insalubrious custom still extant among us, of interring in the heart of so densely populated a city as London! It is a remnant of barbarity that ought to be expelled by civilised people. My heart sickens with disgust whenever I see burials in the City, and I no longer feel surprised to hear of typhus and other fevers raging in certain parts of our metropolis. Some of the churches are untenable from the nauseous and sickening vapours which rise from the vaults beneath the pews occupied by the faithful, and they little think that

certain insects which crawl or buzz about them have left the abode of *death* to pay a visit to the living. Would that we had a Senor Espada as Bishop of London, to lay the axe to the root, and reform such insalubrious and disgusting abuses !

The ceremony was not of long duration, for no sooner had the body been laid beside the yawning grave, than the lid of the coffin was put on, and the body lowered. I wished to call Mr. Smith's attention to the corpse, but, fearful, no doubt, of catching a glimpse of the eye in question, he had strolled to another part of the cemetery. I observed that the silk dress worn by the corpse had been entirely cut into shreds, and, on inquiry, was told, that this measure had been adopted to prevent the sexton from disinterring the body and stripping it of its silken garments. The ceremony ended, every one hastened to leave the spot where their relations and friends had been interred and *disinterred*, and heedless of the fate which awaited them, they gazed on the blackened bones, and rattled back to the busy city, heedless of death, bent on pleasure and money-making. Happy Creoles, ye laugh at death, and talk of *velorios* as we, the children of the northern zones, talk of a christening, a rout, or a wedding !!

We followed the example of the mourners, and having re-entered our quitrins, drove off to the Cathedral. We soon reached this pile, which does not boast of more than a century since its formation ; being a mixture of Gothic, Mexican, African, and Moresque architecture. It was founded by the Jesuits, but these being shortly afterwards banished from the island, it was converted into a Cathedral. I have seen many splendid edifices consecrated to the worship of the Almighty ; have oft wandered over the massive pavement of the famed St. Marc ; have frequently trodden amongst the marble tombs of Milan's marbled Cathedral, with its one hundred spires and countless statues. My eyes had fed their enraptured gaze on Notre Dame de Paris, Notre Dame of Antwerp, and the Gothic sanctuaries, yet I was not disappointed with the *tout ensemble* of the Cathedral of the Havana, with its fretted niches and tapering pillars, carved and ornamented with nature's gifts, in the shape of tropical fruits.

As we entered the Cathedral, the perfume of incense and other fragrant myrrhs, mingled with the odour of the choicest flowers, almost overpowered us. Myriads of wax-lights glittered on all sides, vainly striving to outvie the glaring light of a tropical sun, now riding high in a cloudless sky. The altars were literally covered with gold, silver, and precious stones ; and here and there stood, or sat, a virgin, decked in costly garments, holding the infant Christ in her wooden arms, as if in sad mockery of His commandments. The image, if we may use the expression, actually groaned under the weight of trinkets and precious stones.

The Virgin, or rather the Virgin Marys, are not without their maids of honour. A certain number of ladies, chosen from amongst the noblest and richest families of the Havana, are appointed to attend upon these *graven images*, as ladies in waiting and mistresses of the robes. Their duties consist in seeing that the robes of the virgins are kept clean and

occasionally changed ; that the lace and fine linen are carefully washed, mangled and ironed, and that their jewels be burnished and polished for high days and holidays. These good Creoles rack their brains and drain their purses, for the purpose of dressing up these wooden dolls, each boasting that *their* Madonna has the most costly wardrobe. This money, if spent partly upon the *poor* and partly for *educating* the people, would, in my humble opinion, be far more acceptable in the eyes of the Almighty, than squandered in dressing up of dolls or graven images in purple and fine linen ; but there is no reasoning with bigoted and superstitious people, nor accounting for taste, as Mrs. Smith said.

I was very much struck with the vast concourse of white and coloured people, mixing promiscuously without distinction of rank and station. Grandees and slaves knelt side by side without fear of contamination, and whatever might have been the pride of the one, and the humility of the other class, without the walls of the Lord's temple, it was evident that master and slave were *equals* in the House of God. There were no *pews* to keep the poor man from touching the coat of the noble, or the rich merchants—there was no line of demarcation between the high and the low as in *our* churches. Every one, whether slave or free, had a right to the few circles of ground he occupied, and none dared say to the half-clad slaves---“ get out and make room for me ! ” Does this exist in England where slavery is held in abhorrence ? Does the rich man offer a seat in his pew to the poor widow of some journeyman mechanic, or would a Dowager Countess offer a seat to her tradesman's wife ? Alas, no ! for there is a great distinction between man and man, even in the Lord's temples in England. It was vanity, pomp, and pride, that invented pews, whereas meekness and humility contented themselves with the *prie-dieus*, which are at the disposal of the rich and poor. We dislike the superstition and mummery displayed in Roman Catholic churches, but we admire the equality established in those churches subject to the Holy See, where the beggar and the aristocrat have equal rights and claims.

During the ceremony I requested my friends to take up their station in front of the altar, and mark the ceremony, which was very imposing. The tingling of the bells, the going and coming of priests and other functionaries in surplices and scarlet robes, the flickering of wax lights, the scattering of incense, which rose majestically in dense clouds to the very roof of the pile ; the sound of sacred music—all tended to elevate the mind.

At my request, my companions bowed whenever the shrill bell at the altar denoted some peculiarity in the service, which was new to them, whereby we avoided the gaze of those who might have put us down as heretics. It was not the fear of its being known that we were Protestants which induced me to advise my friends to imitate the example of others : as I respect every religion invented by man, I expect every man to respect the one we profess, and in which we were brought up. Religious forms are mere moonshine ; in our actions alone are we accountable to the Most High.

When the ceremony was concluded, we found ourselves at liberty to survey the cathedral. We saw none of those fine pictures of immortal masters, which adorn the walls of European churches ; but there were numerous collections of saints' banners, and relics. Having examined the principal altar, my eye fell upon a plain marble slab, solidly fixed on the right hand side of the altar. It bore the rude lineaments of a man, clad in the costume in vogue at the period when Spain was in her glory. It was the resting-place and the portrait of Columbus. The following is the modest epitaph of the man who served Spain so faithfully, but who was so shamefully rewarded :—

“O restos e imagen del gran Colon!
Mil siglos durad, guardados en la urna
Y en la remembranza de nuestra nacion.”

For the edification of the reader we have versified the foregoing epitaph, which we confess was done without the assistance of the poet MacGuinness, who was lost in reverie before the effigy of that man who was a wanderer during life, and whose bones like those of Napoleon, were destined to make long voyages after death :—

Stranger ! behold this little urn contains
Of famed Columbus, nought but his remains.
Oh, Time ! respect the spot where Christoph lies,
For he was great, brave, virtuous, and wise.
Peace to his ashes !—Let his deeds remain
The pride and glory of ungrateful Spain.

We left the spot filled with disgust at the base treatment Columbus received from those his vast discoveries enriched. None can forget how shamefully he was treated by the villain Bobadilla, who loaded him with chains in lieu of heaping honours upon his head, and thus a weak monarch listened to his enemies, base calumniators, who were jealous of his reputation and the immortality he had acquired by his unmatched courage and perseverance. Alas ! the discoverer died broken-hearted at Valladolid, the victim of intrigue and calumny, and the only honour conferred on his memory was the sending his remains to that spot, where he landed amid the acclamations of those who would have deterred him from pursuing his great work of discovery. If we peruse the biography of Christopher Columbus, we cannot but admit the truth of the proverb —“Put not thy trust in Princes.”

ON THE ABOLITION OF TRANSPORTATION TO VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.

[We have much pleasure in publishing the following important Petition, which came to hand by the last arrivals, praying for the abolition of further convict deportation to Van Diemen's Land. The injury to the best interests of the Colony, by making this the sole penal settlement, the heavy expenses incurred, the great prevalence of crime, and the bad repute in which the Island is now held—having tended to deter free emigration and the outlay of capital—and are all so many strong arguments in favour of the prayer of the Petition.—EDITOR.]

To Her Most Gracious Majesty VICTORIA, Queen of the United
Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

The humble Petition of the undersigned Free Colonists of Van
Diemen's Land.

SHewETH,

That in approaching your Majesty to pray your gracious protection, we desire to express our sincere loyalty to your Majesty, and our firm attachment to the constitution of the British empire.

That in making our present application, we entreat your Majesty to believe that we are actuated by no factious feeling, by no unreasonable discontent, nor by any motive but such as ought to influence us as men and as Christians.

That we appeal to Sir Eardley Wilmot, our Lieutenant-Governor, to testify that what we state as matter of fact in this Petition is in no degree erroneous or exaggerated; and, as a considerable number of your Petitioners are personally known to his Excellency, and also to our late Lieutenant-Governor, Sir John Franklin (who is now in England), we further appeal to them both for their testimony as to the general position and character as colonists of many of those who now address your Majesty.

That we remind your Majesty that from the year 1824, the British government promoted and encouraged the emigration of free settlers to Van Diemen's Land, by public notices issued, from the Colonial-Office, the Horse-Guards, and the Admiralty, and offered as inducements to such emigration, at first free grants of land, and latterly allowances to naval and military officers in the purchase of crown lands.

That the obtaining of free grants of land was conditional upon the settlers investing a considerable capital in the Colony, and being persons of character and respectability; and that all those who obtained such grants, and all military and naval officers obtaining the allowance

in purchasing land, were required to become permanent residents in the Colony.

That under these inducements, and upon these conditions, a large body of your Majesty's free subjects became settlers in Van Diemen's Land as farmers and merchants.

That up to the year 1831, a considerable number of your Majesty's free subjects had also emigrated to Van Diemen's Land as mechanics and farming men; and after that year, the number of these emigrants was increased under the system of bounties sanctioned both by the British and Colonial governments.

That by the industry and capital of these various colonists, an extensive commerce has been created, two considerable sea-port towns, besides several inland townships (or villages) and numerous houses and farm buildings have been erected, and a vast quantity of the waste land in the colony has been cleared from the forest and brought into cultivation.

That from the year 1824, to the year 1840, the population of the colony increased from 12,700 to upwards of 40,000—the number of acres in cultivation from 25,000 to 124,000—the colonial shipping from one vessel of 42 tons to one hundred and forty one vessels comprising 12,491 tons—the imports (chiefly of English goods carried in English ships) from £62,000 to £988,356—the exports from £14,500 to £867,007, in which the wool alone amounted to £223,000—the colonial fixed revenue from £16,863 to £118,541—and that the sum of £218,790 was between the year 1828 and the year 1840 (inclusive) invested by the colonists in the purchase of crown lands.

That during the same period, the number of places of worship increased from four to forty-four, and that there was a corresponding increase in the number of schools and other establishments for education.

That from the year 1824 to 1840, the greater part of the convicts transported from England were sent to New South Wales, and only a small proportion to this island, who immediately upon their landing were dispersed over the colony as labourers and servants.

That from the rapid increase of the free colonists, and the limited number of convicts sent to Van Diemen's Land, those among the latter who became free, or who by their good conduct were allowed to work on their own account, obtained full employment at high wages, thus having the strongest stimulus to good behaviour; and from this circumstance, but especially from each convict being at once separated from his associates, and accustomed to regular labour, and from the facility with which a moderate number could be kept in order, the majority of the convicts in Van Diemen's Land were industrious and useful members of society, and the security of life and property was as complete in this island as in any county in England.

That from 1824 Van Diemen's Land was therefore no longer merely a penal settlement, as in 1804 when it was first occupied, but a colony established under the sanction and encouragement of the English government, and supplied with a certain amount of convict labour which

the settlers could readily employ, and for which they paid by defraying the whole expense of the convicts after their arrival.

That during the sixteen years in which the prosperity of the colony was so remarkable, the proportion of convicts to that of free inhabitants constantly and regularly decreased, so that in 1840 the number of convicts as compared to the number of free inhabitants was little more than one half the number in 1824.

That in the year 1840 the home government discontinued sending convicts to New South Wales, and this small island was converted into the sole penal settlement of the British empire, the sole receptacle for all criminals transported from every part of your Majesty's vast dominions—from England, Ireland, and Scotland—from Canada, India, and Africa—and latterly also for all criminals transported from your Majesty's recent possessions in China.

That in thus converting a flourishing British colony into an immense gaol, the free inhabitants had no voice—that their consent to an alteration so fatal to their interests was never obtained nor ever asked, and that they had not even the option given them, of selling their property to the government and leaving the island—a measure which your Petitioners do not deny the British government had a right to subject us to, if the change had been for the general benefit of the empire.

That in none of the notices issued by the government, either to free settlers or to free mechanics and labourers, is there a single intimation given that at any time, or under any circumstances, this colony would be placed under the present system; that we believe it was never thought of until 1840—that not a single colonist ever anticipated it—that on the contrary the increase of the population and the whole system of our government led us to look forward to the time when transportation to this colony would altogether cease—that many circumstances induced us to entertain this view, and we especially refer to the Petition from this Colony for a free Representative Assembly in the year 1838, to which your Majesty was pleased to return a very favourable answer, it being obvious that to a merely penal colony a free assembly could not be granted, or, if granted, that it would be useless.

That your petitioners were in total ignorance of the details of the new transportation system until within the last few months, when part of the instructions sent by the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the Lieutenant Governor was published in the colonial newspapers.

That from these instructions we learn that all male convicts sentenced to transportation for life, and a portion of those transported for fifteen years, are first to be sent to Norfolk Island, where they are to be kept not less than two years, and to be then transferred to Van Diemen's Land, that the number of criminals to be thus disposed of is estimated at one thousand a year—that these convicts, and also all those transported in the first instance to Van Diemen's Land are to be kept in probation gangs each consisting of from 250 to 300 men, in which each convict was to remain not less than eleven years, in which he may remain not less than one year, but in which he may remain seven

ral years—that he is then to receive a pass which enables him to engage in private service for wages, and if he cannot obtain employment, he is to remain in the service of government, receiving merely food and clothing.

That under the new system 13,764 male convicts and 2492 females have been landed in this island between 1st January, 1841, and 31st October, 1844.

That our only means of keeping these men under any kind of control are the few soldiers that are detached from head-quarters and the police of the colony.

That the expense of this police, which is chiefly occupied in protecting us against criminals forced upon the Colony against our strongest wishes, is borne by our Colonial revenue,—that a further large part of that revenue is sunk in various expenses connected with the new convict system; as one instance of which we state that, from January, 1843, to June, 1844, the expense of witnesses at the supreme court (exclusive of the quarter sessions) was £2447 10s. 6d., of which £2208 was for witnesses on trials of convicts,—that the large sums which the local government cannot avoid thus applying without leaving us altogether unprotected have already created considerable colonial debt, the whole of which has been incurred on account of the new convict system, and which, as far as we can see, must increase: thus, not only anticipating our revenues, but embarrassing the colonial government, and depriving it of the means of undertaking any works of public utility.

That before the meeting of the legislative council in February last, the Lieutenant Governor appointed a committee to report upon the colonial finance, that this committee appointed a stamp tax, further taxes on tea, and other imported commodities, a tax upon dogs, and taxes (in the form of licences) for carrying on various branches of trade, that an act for taxing tea and other imports was thereupon laid before the council, the members of which are all nominated by the crown, that Petitions against this act numerous signed by the colonists, and pointing out the injustice of taxing them for the coercion of British criminals, were presented to the Lieutenant Governor in council,—that the act was notwithstanding passed, and is now law,—and that in addition to the previous colonial debt, arrangements were made during the same sitting of council for a loan of £25,000 from one of the colonial banks.

That your Petitioners have thus to pay taxes imposed by a council in which they have no representative, and levied, not for any colonial purpose, but to support the new convict system which is fast destroying the colony.

That we are aware that the funds derived from the sale of crown lands were given up to the colonial revenue in Van Diemen's Land and also in New South Wales, in consideration of each colony paying its police; but we remind your Majesty that that arrangement was made in 1836, when the greater part of the convicts were sent to New South Wales, and when the crown lands were sold at five shillings an acre; whereas, since the transfer of the land fund the home government has

raised the minimum price to twenty shillings an acre, at which (even if the colony were not in its present circumstances) these lands are almost quite unsaleable; and that, in fact, the land fund has fallen from £52,905 in 1840, to £8,913 for the first three quarters of the year 1844, and is estimated by his Excellency to produce no more than £2,000 for the present year.

That the police thus paid by the colony although enormous in proportion to the population, is far to limited to give efficient protection to the colonists, the convicts being spread over the island in gangs of from 200 to 300 each.

That already under the new system crime has increased to an alarming extent:—that in 1840 there were 507 prosecutions for crime in the supreme court and quarter sessions, of which 407 were against convicts: while in the first eleven months of the year 1844, there were (besides numberless offences tried before the magistrates) no less than 812 prosecutions in those courts, of which 713 were against convicts or those who had been convicts.

That by keeping criminals in large gangs as at present, they cannot be benefited or improved, but on the contrary become deteriorated: that from the numbers already sent, their strongest stimulus to good conduct has been withdrawn, for the free settlers cannot employ them:—that of those who have earned permission to work for themselves there are already 2,000 unemployed, and without the chance of employment:—and that it is impossible that the good conduct of any man, whether a convict or not, can continue, who is compelled to associate exclusively with criminals, and who is without any prospect of bettering his condition.

That this unbounded supply of convict labour, has of necessity thrown out of employment many of the free labourers who were induced by the Government to emigrate hither, and must soon drive them out of Van Diemen's Land, thus further lessening the proportion of free inhabitants in the colony.

That we are in a state of continual dread and anxiety for ourselves and our families owing to the number of convicts by whom we are surrounded: that we feel we have no security for life or property: that the moral condition of the colony is daily becoming worse and worse: that no regulations however well intended, no government however able, no improvement in detail, can counteract the evils of the enormous mass of criminals that are poured upon our shores; and that if the present system of transportation continues, we must at whatever sacrifice abandon a colony which will become unfit for any man to inhabit who regards the highest interests of himself or of his children.

That in the violent commercial convulsions which have been felt during the last two years in all the Australian colonies, our colonial property has fallen more than one half in value, and that much distress has been thus occasioned; but this distress is aggravated ten-fold by the state to which the transportation system has reduced us, and by the gloomy prospect of the future.

That the large government expenditure under the present system is of some pecuniary benefit to us in the depressed condition of our affairs, but we cannot put it in competition with interests of a higher nature, or allow it for a moment to weigh against the moral evils which that system produces.

That under the circumstances which we have thus detailed to your Majesty, the prosperity of this colony is at an end :—that its commerce must decay, and its lands become almost valueless :—that no new capital is now invested in it, and no new emigrants now come to it, and that we look for none, for we ourselves would never have emigrated to Van Diemen's Land had we foreseen its present state.

That there is yet a more fearful evil produced by the present system of transportation ; that it is reported and believed that the unhappy men sent to Norfolk Island have sunk into deeper pollution and depravity, and that if such men are added to the unbounded number of criminals already in Van Diemen's Land, this island and the neighbouring colonies, among which they must ultimately be diffused, will exhibit a spectacle of vice and infamy such as the history of the world cannot parallel.

That the removal of the various evils which the transportation system causes to the free colonists, is within the scope of that power which the Almighty has placed in your hands : that we cannot doubt your Majesty's willingness to remedy them :—and that, even in our present depressed situation, we shall await your Majesty's decision with the confident hope that they will be removed.

Your Petitioners humbly pray your Majesty that the number of convicts in this Island may as speedily as possible be reduced to that which existed in 1840,—that transportation to the colony may cease until this object is effected,—that meanwhile adequate protection may be afforded to the colonists, and better means adopted for the moral and social improvement of the convicts,—that the colony may be relieved from every expense occasioned by convicts not in the employment of settlers—and that arrangements may be made for the gradual and total abolition of transportation to Van Diemen's Land

And your Petitioners will ever pray.

[*The Petitions to the Houses of Lords and Commons are in the same form.*]

Hobart Town, " July 1845.

OUR NOTE-BOOK.

EMIGRATION FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM—We have not hitherto found time to notice the report of the Emigration Commissioners, published a short time ago, which is, as usual, an interesting document. For the present we content ourselves with a few extracts :—

Table of Emigrants who have left the United Kingdom in 1843 and 1844, distinguishing the different places to which they proceeded :—

Destination.	1843.	1844.
United States	28,335	43,660
Texas	16	1
Central and South America	433	710
NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.		
Canada	20,350	18,747
New Brunswick	987	2,489
Nova Scotia and Cape Breton	1,203	747
Newfoundland	448	684
Prince Edward's Island	528	257
Bermuda	2	
BRITISH WEST INDIES.		
Jamaica	202	126
British Guiana	184	142
Trinidad	153	60
Other settlements	277	168
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Foreign West Indies		39
East Indies	192	176
Hong Kong		18
China	30	9
Syria	6	
Mauritius	1	13
Cape of Good Hope	203	161
Western Africa and Madeira	194	250
AUSTRALIAN COLONIES.		
Sydney	2,439	1,179
Port Phillip	627	934
South Australia	45	47
Van Diemen's Land	24	1
New Zealand	343	68
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Grand Total	57,212	70,686

Of the 70,686 emigrants who left the British Isles in 1844, the following were the proportions from each kingdom :—

From England,	50,257
„ Scotland,	4,504
„ Ireland,	15,925
	<hr/>
	70,686

Judging from their destinations, the emigrants from the Three Kingdoms must be of different classes, or have dissimilar objects in view :—

Went to	English.	Scotch.	Irish.
United States,	39,070	1,597	2,993
Central and South America,	668	43	..
Our North American Colonies,	8,038	2,470	12,396
British West Indies,	283	197	16
Foreign do.	38	1	..
East Indies,	131	45	..
Hong Kong,	17	1	..
China,	9	..	..
Mauritius,	9	4	..
Western Africa and Madeira,	240	10	..
The Cape,	153	8	..
Australian Colonies,	1,581	128	520

It will be seen that four-fifths of all the English emigrants went to the United States, and only one-sixth to our North American Colonies; of the Scotch emigrants only one-third went to the United States, and more than one-half to the N. A. Colonies; while fully three-fourths of the Irish went to these Colonies, and only one-fifth to the United States.

The proportion of cabin passengers from the Three Kingdoms affords a sort of index to the condition of the emigrants :—

England---Cabin passengers,	4070, or 1 in 12½
Scotland--- Ditto,	663, or 1 in 7
Ireland--- Ditto,	156, or 1 in 102

It thus appears that Scotland sends out a much greater proportion of persons in respectable circumstances as emigrants than England, and an infinitely greater proportion than Ireland.

The extent of emigration from the United Kingdom, and the direction in which it flows, vary amazingly. They depend, of course, on several circumstances, but chiefly on the greater or less amount of distress at home, and the less or more inviting condition of the Colonies or Foreign countries which afford an opening :

AVERAGE ANNUAL NUMBER OF EMIGRANTS.

' In the 4 years ending 1828	22,500
,, 6 years ending 1834	69,000
,, 5 years ending 1839	57,500
,, 3 years ending 1842	112,500
1843 and 1844	64,000

The three years of dearth and depression ending with 1842 gave a tremendous impulse to emigration, almost doubling the annual amount for the preceding five years; while the two last years of cheap corn and improved trade have again reduced it in nearly the same proportion. The most extensive emigration ever known from this country, or, we suppose, from any other, was in 1842, when 128,344 persons left the British Isles to settle abroad.

The three great streams of emigration are to our North American Colonies, the United States, and Australia (including New Zealand.) Their variations in the last nine years are shown in the following table :—

Year.	North American Colonies.	United States.	Australia.
1836	34,226	37,774	3,124
1837	29,884	36,770	5,054
1838	4,577	14,332	14,021
1839	12,658	33,536	15,786
1840	32,293	40,642	15,850
1841	38,164	45,017	32,625
1842	54,123	63,852	8,534
1843	28,518	28,335	3,478
1844	22,224	43,660	2,000

SINGULAR FOSSIL REMAINS.

LONDON, CANADA WEST, 9th August, 1845.

DEAR SIR,—

According to promise I now send for the information of such of your readers as are curious in the investigation of Geological remains, a short account of the Fossil Belamnite now in my possession, belonging to the class Molusk, which was picked up in the neighbourhood of this place. To attempt any correct description of this very singular formation, I fear my imperfect and limited acquaintance with the science will hardly suffice, but if it be the means of leading others to farther inquiry, it will serve the purpose for which the attempt is made.

The stone in which the Fossil is contained is a detached piece of limestone, very hard, of a bluish colour, resembling Scotch whinstone, much worn, and to all appearances, long exposed to the action of currents. The stone is twenty-two inches in length, of an oblong form, perforated by numerous marine shells of a very peculiar description. The stone was found on the surface, and, if I am correctly informed, near what was once the old channel of the river Thames, thirty or forty feet above the level of its present bed, as it was picked up with others to form the foundation of one of the new buildings in Dundass-street, the workman's hammer brought it accidentally and uninjured to light. The body of the Fossil or Belamnite, thus exposed, has the appearance of an apothecary's pestle; about eight inches in length, and tapering upwards like an inverted cone, perfectly round and smooth, five inches in diameter round the base, which is concave and beautifully polished. Upon close examination, the base of the cone is found to be divided and made up of thin transverse plates, into a series of what might be supposed the air chambers or areolæ said to have belonged to this animal, resembling a pile of watch-glasses, gradually diminishing towards the apex, perforated by siphuncle, a by which they were inflated. These transverse plates are outwardly concave, inwardly convex. Near the bed of the cone is a perfect circular bead or moulding, which, with the siphuncle on the facial centre above-mentioned, gives it the appearance certainly of an apothecary's pestle, or some such instrument formed by the hand of man for a similar purpose.

That the object I have described, ever lived and moved or had a being, is about as difficult to convince the hundreds, who have, from curiosity, been led to examine it, as it was a matter of much doubt to the Paisley weaver, how it was possible the earth could turn round on its axis "without emptying the water out o' the River Clyde."

The class Nautuli or Belamosephia belong, I believe to the secondary formation of earth or limestone, and a numerous class, now extinct, has been mentioned by Buckland and others as inhabiting the ocean, none of which, however, that I am aware of, have ever been found on the continent of America. It is, no doubt, some stretch of imagination to believe that the object now before me, ever moved over the waters by means of the hydraulic process above described, or raised its undulating form to the surface, and lowered itself again at will to its slimy bed, the abode of other monsters; the Plesiosaurs and Ichthyosaurs of the infant world, ceasing to exist many thousand years before the creation of man, but such ceases to be matter of wonder before the light of revealed truth, as to the inquiring eyes of those whose minds reach into the hidden and almost mysterious pages of the past.

J. N.

YANKEE ENTERPRISE—The town of Rome in Western New York, containing a population of over 5,000, has been built up by factories for making paddles

and oars from the ash, thousands of which are shipped by almost every vessel for England, France, Germany, Prussia, Sweden, Russia, and throughout all the East. The junks of the Chinese are now all managed by American oars, and the small boats of all Europe and Asia are now propelled by the enterprise of the people of this village.

RESTRICTION ON THE MONOPOLY OF THE CROWN LANDS IN NEW SOUTH WALES.—Very few persons in Great Britain can be aware of the hardships and persecution to which the young Immigrant Squatter in New South Wales is generally subject in settling down in "the Bush," by the usurpation of large tracts of land by the wealthy squatter—larger in extent than many of our English counties—to which these monopolisers made claim in right of *first possession*. However, the Governor, Sir George Gipps, has issued the following regulations, which have been approved of by Lord Stanley and the British Government, and, it is hoped, more encouragement and protection will now be afforded to small industrious capitalists, after these new orders are in force.

New Regulation for occupying Crown Lands, with Depasturing Licenses,
July 1st, 1845.

"Colonial Secretary's Office, Sydney.

"With reference to the regulations of the 21st May, 1839, and 14th September, 1840, relative to the occupation of the Crown Lands *beyond* the boundaries of location, his Excellency the Governor, in consequence of the practice which has grown up of parties occupying several distinct stations under *one license*, has been pleased, with the advice of the Executive Council, to direct, that parties occupying stations in separate districts, notwithstanding that the same may be contiguous, shall be required in future to take out a separate license for each such district, and to pay the established fee of £10 for the same; and that no person shall in future be allowed to take up a new station, either in the same district in which his stock may be depastured, or in any other, without having first obtained a separate license for the same, under the recommendation of the Commissioner, and paid the fee of £10 thereon.

"His Excellency, with the advice of the Executive Council, has further directed, that from and after the 1st day of July, 1845, a separate license must be taken out, and the fee of £10 paid thereon, for each separate station or run occupied, even though situated in the same district, if the run exceeds twenty square miles, namely 12,800 acres of area.

"No one station, within the meaning of these regulations, is after the 1st July, 1845, to consist of more than twenty square miles of area, unless it be certified by the Commissioner, that more land is required for the quantity of sheep or cattle mentioned in the next paragraph.

"If the party desire to occupy more, and the Commissioner consider him entitled to such occupation, with reference to the quantity of stock possessed by him, or its probable increase in the ensuing three years, as well as the *accommodation required* by other parties, and the general interest of the public, an additional license must be taken out and paid for.

"Every station at a greater distance than seven miles from any other occupied by the same party, will be deemed a separate station, within the meaning of these regulations, even though the area occupied may not altogether exceed twenty square miles; and no one license will cover a station capable of depasturing more than 4,000 sheep, or 500 head of cattle.

"In other respects the regulations referred to will remain in force.

"By His Excellency's command,

(Signed) "E. D. THOMSON."

REVIEWS.

New Zealand, in a Series of Letters: containing an Account of the Country both before and since its occupation, &c. By S. M. D. Martin, M.D., lately a Member of the Legislative Council of New Zealand. pp. 379. London: Simmonds and Ward.

The disastrous intelligence recently received from New Zealand, and the concessions made to the New Zealand Company by the Secretary of State, have tended to bring the affairs of this Colony again prominently before the public view, and Dr. Martin's book, therefore, appears at a period which will command for it a patient and careful perusal.

Dr. Martin brings to bear upon these letters the experience of five years, coupled with the advantage of an educated and intelligent mind. As the editor of a newspaper in Auckland, and a member of Governor Fitz Roy's Council, he is necessarily well informed on all that relates to the history and politics of the Colony.

Although supporting and defending, in a great measure, the policy pursued by Captain Fitz Roy, Dr. Martin's views and opinions are thoroughly independent, and he scruples not to censure wherever he considers censure is due. Against the conduct of the New Zealand Company and its agents he is most severe; but, according to our author, the animadversion is deserved, for he says—

“The remarks regarding the New Zealand Company will most likely give offence to certain parties at home and in the Colony connected with that once influential body; but as truth is the object aimed at, private and public offence have not been reckoned, where their avoidance would affect the first. It is scarcely possible, in the narration of mistakes, blunders, and even crimes, not to give offence to some persons; but the parties must blame themselves for having given so many occasions. Had they conducted themselves better, and with a little more regard to the interest and happiness of others, they would be entitled to more consideration.”

There is too much truth in the following observations:—

ENGLAND AS A COLONIZING NATION.

“No man who has for any time resided in an English Colony, will ever admit that England is entitled to take to herself any credit because of her treatment and management of the Colonies. The Colonies of England are doubtless extensive, wealthy, and important; but it does not by any means follow, that because they are so, the credit is due to the mother-country, or that the success of the Colonies is in any respect to be attributed to the justice and wisdom of England's Colonial policy. If the truth were known, it would readily be admitted, that England has less to boast of, as regards her Colonies, than any other country in Europe. It may be the case that the Colonies of other European countries do not succeed as well as those of England; but it will be found that these other European Colonies fail, despite the efforts of their Governments in their behalf, and that England's Colonies on the other hand, succeed, despite the neglect, the mismanagement, the injustice, and the oppression of the Home and Colonial Governments.

“The French and English Colonies are frequently compared with one another, and, as a matter of course, Englishmen decide, perhaps justly, in favour of their own Colonies. The French are, it must be granted, unhappy in their attempts at founding Colonies; they do not succeed as Colonists; but their want of success must not be preferred as a charge against the French Government, or as any evidence in favour of the superior policy of the English Government. If the success and prosperity of a Colony depended merely upon the support of the Parent Government, the French Colonies should have been in advance of the English inasmuch as the French expend much larger sums of money upon the establishment of their Colonies, and afford a much greater amount of security to their settlers, and are always more jealous over their

interests, than the English. The difference in point of success is to be accounted for by the fact, that the French are not a colonizing people. Living for the present, and for present enjoyment, they are unable to endure the hardships and privations incident to a Colonial life. The social philosophy of a Frenchman teaches him to live for his own happiness, leaving his children to do the same; he has therefore no object in subjecting himself to the many privations and self-denials to which a Colonist must necessarily submit. The Government under these circumstances may do for him what they will, but they can never teach him to forego present pleasure for prospective gain. The Englishman, on the other hand, is born a Colonist; he is always feeding on the future, and denying himself the present: he starts in life in the hope of being able to accumulate as much money as may render it prudent for him to marry; and when he is married, and the father of a family, his anxiety is then to provide for his children. It is the same with a Colonist: he is always looking to the future; he buries himself in the heart of the Canadian forest, or roams as a shepherd over the barbarous and arid plains of New Holland, in the expectation of some day reaping a rich harvest from the one, or the golden fleece from the other. His hopes of happiness are prospective; but they are strong enough to enable him to endure present physical, social, and moral suffering.

"The success of our Colonies, then, is altogether the effect of the peculiar character of our countrymen, and is not in the slightest degree the result of good government: on the contrary, it will be found that the history of every one of the British Colonies is nothing more or less than a record of the grossest blunders, ignorance and oppression!"

"The Colonies of England are now beginning to attract some notice, and a hope may therefore be cherished that the Home Government will be induced to exercise a little moral justice towards them than they have hitherto done."

The work is studded with interesting anecdotes, which it is quite out of our power to find room for; but there is a degree of honesty and freshness of description throughout the narrative, which carries the reader on greedily to the sequel.

Dr. Martin considers the Europeans are to blame in a great measure for most of the quarrels with the natives; and his remarks appear to be borne out by the following cases:—

"In the present state of New Zealand, with a very scattered European population and a numerous semicivilised native race, it is scarcely to be expected that an internal government can be established on a scale and with power great enough to preserve order throughout the country. Every settlement of any importance must imitate the example set by the Bay of Islands, and organise for itself a police, which is doubtless all that can be looked for in a rude and primitive state of society. The country settlers and agriculturists must, on the other hand, as they do now, continue for some time longer to place themselves under the protection of some powerful chief, and accommodate themselves as much as possible to the peculiar circumstances of the country, by respecting the customs and even prejudices of the aborigines. Acting on such a principle, it is wonderful to conceive, by all accounts, what amount of peace, safety, and security may be enjoyed among a savage and even cannibal people like the New Zealanders. I am told that there is scarcely an instance of their wantonly injuring Europeans, or their property, if they manifest ordinary discretion and propriety of conduct. It is true that some depredations have been committed on Europeans visiting the country; but the fault has been invariably on the part of the Europeans in either actively engaging in the wars of the tribes with one another, in outraging their feelings by violating their customs and prejudices, or more frequently by unjustifiable interference with their women. From all that I have seen and heard of the natives myself, I should not have the slightest fear or hesitation in settling among them."

We shall endeavour to resume our notice of this interesting volume at a future period.

A Guide to the Foreign and Colonial Posts, &c. By Frederick Herbert, of the General Post-Office. London: Grove and Son.

• This is a most useful book, and one which has been long required. The careful calculations of the tables and the elaborate compilations from a mass of varying and obsolete Post-Office regulations, must have been a work of great labour. We detect upon the whole very few errors in the work, and those we

have met with are comparatively unimportant. An alphabetical list of all the leading towns, kingdoms, &c., refers the consulter to a more full series of tables, which furnish the various routes by which letters may be sent, in turn and the amount of postage chargeable by each route.

We can confidently recommend this work as a most useful manual, to all who have extensive foreign correspondence.

Lord Aberdeen and the Ameer of Bokhara. London: Chapman and Hall.

This is a pamphlet by Capt. Grover in reply to the article on his book in the *Edinburgh Review*, in which the author defends himself against the indecent attacks of the Foreign Office. We do not deem it necessary to plunge ourselves into the controversy.

Copies of the Memorial, Correspondence, Reports, Notices, &c. of the Halifax and Quebec Railway. London: Effingham Wilson.

[Notices of many books, received at a late period, must stand over until our next Number.]

COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

INDIA.

We have received dates from Bombay to the 13th October; Calcutta to the 7th; and Madras to the 10th.

The present Mail is crowded with incidents of considerable interest in regard to the political relations of the Government of India.

Gwalior is continued to be mismanaged, and corruption teems in every department of the administration. In Oudh matters are no better.

The *Bombay Courier* of the 3rd inst. understands that Mr. Chapman, the representative of the Peninsular Railway Company, has left Bombay for the Ghauts, with the intention of taking a general view of such parts of the country as appear to demand first attention. Mr. Chapman is supposed to have proceeded up with the intention of watching the effects of the heavy rains expected with the Elephanta gale—he, however, in conjunction with the Bombay community, is doomed to be disappointed, for we have had no Elephanta as yet, and the usual time being passed we greatly fear that we are not to be favoured with the presence of this periodical, and at this moment now welcome visitor. We are sorry to say that owing to the continued excessive heat, the absence of all rain for more than a month, and in fact the deficiency of rain to the extent of nearly one-third of the average quantity, sickness is beginning to manifest itself to an alarming extent. We have before our eyes also the dreadful prospect of a drought in the ensuing hot weather accompanied with scarcity; it is to be hoped that an all-merciful Providence will avert these calamities from this Island, —where from the dense population they would be felt in the severest degree.

A *Delhi Gazette Extra*, of the 30th September, confirms the report, and gives a detailed account, of the death of

Wuzeer Jowahir Singh at Lahore. He was shot to death by the troops on the 21st. Rajah Lall Singh, who is a prisoner in the hands of the soldiery, has told them a tale, true or false, which is likely to precipitate any movement towards our side of the Sutlej which they may have had in contemplation—to wit that Jowahir Singh had buried betwixt Ferozepore and Loodianah two crores of rupees. The Ranee still retains the title and attributes of the Sirkar, and it is believed that Goolab Singe, if he dare accept the perilous office, will be Wuzeer.

The probability of a war with the Sikhs daily gains strength—the corps ordered up sharp to the frontier, and it is said a grand army is to be formed immediately at Ferozepore.

Arrican Grain.—The great destruction of the crops, and especially the rice crops, in the districts which have been subject to the recent inundation, is likely to diminish the harvest of the year, and enhance the price of grain. Indeed, the poor have already begun to feel the effects of the visitation in the enhanced cost of that which is to them the staff of life; and unless the deficiency in the western districts is made up by an exuberant season in other parts, we shall be constrained to look for relief to some of the provinces bordering on Bengal. In these circumstances, the eye naturally turns to the province, which, twenty years ago, in the hands of a barbarous government, was a pestilential swamp, but which, under the influence of a wise administration, and a mild standard of assessment, has become the granary of the Bay of Bengal—we allude of course to Arracan. On turning to the statistical report of the province, which was published in this journal six years ago, we find the quantity of land under rice cultivation, stated at 19,453 doons. The quantity

now subject to the plough does not fall much short of 40,000 doons, which is equal to about 250,000 acres. The present harvest is likely to exceed that of former years. Though it has rained for four months in Arracan, as it has seldom rained since the deluge, yet the torrents which have proved so destructive to rational beings, appear to have imparted the most healthy vigour to vegetable life, and a very large surplus of grain will be available for exportation towards the end of the year. The demand for this staple of Arracan seems to increase with the productiveness of the soil. Vessels are expected from Bourbon in the west, and in the east from China, and even from Sumatra, where the rice of this province promises soon to supplant that of Java. Yet, such has been the extraordinary fertility of the season, that after these customers have been supplied, there will remain a sufficient stock for the suffering districts of Bengal. It is pleasing to contemplate the different aspect which this province now presents; to contrast the Arracan of two centuries ago, when it was the scourge of the lower parts of Bengal, and sent its marauders up the mouths of the Ganges, and turned our fertile fields into that wild desert, known as the Soonderbuns, with that same province at the present time under a civilized government, pouring its products into the lap of this province.—*Fr. of India.*

BATAVIA.—We have received a file of the "Java Courant," to the 1st Sept. which contains some items of interest, as also tabular Statements of the trade and shipping of the Colony during the past year.

The "Courant" of the 12th August, notices that about 5 A.M. on the 30th July a shock of an earthquake was felt at Kedirie, passing in the direction from south to north; although very remarkably felt, it caused no damage.—A letter from the Netherlands, dated May 8th, notices that H. N. M.'s frigate "Jason," commanded by Captain J. F. D. Bourcicus at Flushing, was under orders to convey the newly appointed Governor General of the Dutch East Indies, Mynheer Rochhussen, to Java.

The "Jason" was to leave Flushing on the 15th May.

The Governor General took his departure from Barrackpore yesterday morning for the Upper Provinces, and in the course of the day, the Hon. Sir Herbert Maddock took his seat as President of the Council of India, and Deputy Governor of Bengal.—*Calcutta Star, Sept. 23.*

The "Hurkaru," on the authority of a private letter from Bombay, mentions, that at the request of the Madras Government, Lieut. Fell, of the Indian Navy, has been deputed to make some much-required surveys. He is first to bring round here a pilot brig, building at Bombay, and then to proceed to Madras.—Great activity prevails in the Dockyard at Bombay; a packet steamer of 1440 tons, for engines of 500 horse power, has been some time begun; an 84 gun ship, and two brigs of war, are also in hand.

A Special Meeting of the "Dhurma Shuba" has been held, to consider the question, as to whether native pilgrims would avail themselves of the means of transit afforded by railways. The opinion of those assembled, was that the pilgrims would so avail themselves if arrangements were made for refreshments, and for proper accordance of the rules of caste. It was decided that a letter to this effect should be addressed to the Honorary Secretary of the East Indian Railway Company.

The "Harlequin," a little Schooner from China, was burnt at the Sandheads, with treasure to the amount of a lac of rupees on board—very faint hopes of recovering which are entertained, but the underwriters, local insurance offices, are determined to try, and so are about to send down a steamer for the purpose. The "Aberfoyle," a new and very fine vessel, was also set on fire by an accident, but saved after a little, and not costly damage. The loss of the "Royal Consort" was notified last summary. More ships have come in from New South Wales, bringing horses out for Government chiefly, but also on account of private parties. As yet these cargoes have been productive of very

heavy loss, in consequence of the deaths of the horses on board. The very last vessel, the "Elizabeth and Henry," which cleared out from Sydney with ninety-eight horses, landed only fifty-eight. This is attributed partly to the novelty of the trade, by which neither the shippers know what are the requisites towards fitting up the hold for their purpose, nor do the skippers know what the necessities of the horses are. On one occasion, we believe, the stalls were only made two feet and some odd inches wide. As the difficulties are found out, they will be removed, and a flourishing trade established between India and Australia, in live stock of this description. A speculation was also attempted, a short time ago, in coal from Sydney, and by competent judges thought to be with every prospect of success—but the venture went down in one of the vessels lost in Torres Straits.

CEYLON.—We have papers from hence to the 16th October.

Ceylon, until now, has been considered in its infancy; but a sudden indication of maturity is afforded in the increasing and multiplying of the Press and the announcement of a contemplated Railway. Four new newspapers are announced to appear here shortly. We note this increase in the number of the Ceylon Journals as a mark at once of the advancing prosperity and the rising intelligence of the Colony. The *Ceylon Herald*, which was purchased by its late proprietor, not a year ago, for £600, has been sold for £1178, and is placed under the efficient management of Mr. Knighton. We wish our contemporaries of the Cinnamon Isle, present and prospective, every possible success,

CHINA.

We have our usual files of Hong Kong papers to the 30th September.

The most interesting item of our intelligence is a Memorial addressed by the English merchants of Kongsong to Lord Stanley, setting forth various grievances to which they are subjected by the local Government, and the correspondence between the Memorialists

and His Excellency the Governor. The merchants complain that, after being coaxed and forced into building at Hongkong, under a promise held out to them by Captain Elliott that they were to have their lands either in fee-simple at one or two years' purchase, or at a nominal quit-rent, very onerous terms were imposed upon them by Sir Henry Pottinger, and are still enforced by the present Government. They also complain of the arbitrary levy of an assessment for the maintenance of the Police, while no Municipal body has been formed to control the expenditure; and that "in a place nominally declared to be a free port, every description of commerce and trade is a subject of taxation, or source of revenue, or of monopoly sold to the highest bidder." Under these circumstances, they ask Her Majesty's Government to direct the abolition of the Opium Farm, the Auction Duties, and other "harassing taxations," declaring that if this is not done, the European inhabitants of the settlement, following the example of the Chinese, will be compelled, at all risks, to leave it. It is, they say, a place totally without commerce, yet taxed even in the one matter of ground-rent more heavily than any other port of China is altogether. Hongkong, say the Memorialists, "was never actually required by the British Merchants; and has become even less useful than ever since the opening of the five ports." They believe that it is only useful as a Naval and Military Station, and therefore submit that the few Merchants settled there should not be called on to pay any considerable part of its expenses.

Another matter of some interest is a correspondence betwixt the Governor and the Chinese authorities of Foo-chow-foo on the rude treatment of British visitors by the populace of that place. Governor-General Lew attributes the treatment complained of to the curiosity of the people, who have not yet become accustomed to the sight of Europeans, and, consequently, crowd about them to an inconvenient degree. He suggests as a remedy, that every Englishman intending to visit the place should give notice of such intention,

when a guard of policemen would be appointed to take care of him. This of course did not quite suit the Consul, who moved as an amendment, that the police should be distributed in the streets near the Consulate, and that the shopkeepers of the ward should be made responsible for the capture of any one affronting an English visitor.

English Trade with Foo-Chow-Foo.

—We have had some conversation with a gentleman who visited Foo-chow-foo recently, who had the very best opportunities of making himself acquainted with the commercial prospects of that port. Our informant (who in every respect is a person to be depended upon) states that the violent opposition towards foreign commerce, which for a long time was exhibited by the authorities, has entirely ceased. They now express their willingness to encourage trade, and are fully aware of the advantages to be derived therefrom. At the same time the development of the resources of the district will be gradual; the black teas which grow in the vicinity have always found a market at Canton, and the present crop, or the greater portion of it, has already been secured for that market, if not bought by the tea-men out and out. The cost of inland carriage is very great; on the inferior teas, not much less than 25 per cent. This, with the further charges for transit on returns, will inevitably lead to the establishing a large foreign traffic in the port of Foo-chow-foo, which is the natural channel through which the valuable trade of that district will flow. Musters of tea, we hear, have been shown by the local native merchants of a good quality, and considerably under the prices that rule in the Canton market. Cotton fabrics, of British American make, are also found in the shops, and in some demand for consumption, having been purchased in Canton, and carried overland by canal and other means of transit. The city of Foo-chow-foo is described as being regularly and beautifully built, the streets crossing each other at right angles, and clean. The populace, in number about 600,000, are an orderly and industrious class; the shops and places of trade having all the appearance of a thriving

internal trade. His Excellency Major-General D'Aguilar was received with every demonstration of respect by the Mandarins, and the other high naval and military officers, who visited him on board her Majesty's ship *Iris*, and invited him to meet the Viceroy within the walls of the city. The Major-General accepted the invitation, and was received with the greatest cordiality, as were also the officers of his staff and the other gentlemen who accompanied him. At the interview, a little incident occurred which is worthy of notice as characteristic of the Chinese officials, and showing foreigners the way to deal with them. After an audience of some length, and a mutual exchange of civilities, the Viceroy intimated to General D'Aguilar that a collation had been prepared in an adjoining apartment, but that it was not etiquette for a person holding his high office to sit at table with foreigners. He was immediately informed, that, in Europe, a British General was considered fit to sit at table with any crowned head, and that the Major-General and suite could not accept of his hospitality, unless their entertainer was a partaker himself. The proud Tartar unbent and took a seat with his guests. Interviews of this nature between the high officials of China and those of our own country must have a good effect; the more especially, when Her Majesty's representative combines in himself the frankness of a soldier, the polish of a gentleman, and the tact of a man of the world.—*Friend of China.*

A "Chinese Coasting Steam Navigation Company" has been projected, with the object of keeping up a communication betwixt the ports open to foreign trade, by means of three iron screw-propelled steamers of 300 tons burden and 100 horse power each, with two smaller vessels to run between Canton and Kongkong.

Remarks upon the Chinese Trade at Kongkong during July.—The principal native commerce was on account of ten large junks, on their way to Teentsin, two of which had come from Singapore and one from Canton. The most remarkable thing was the latter being freighted by Shantung merchants,

a race of traders who scarcely ever leave their own province, but had on this occasion so entirely changed their habits as to wander from the place of their birth to this distant settlement. The cargoes brought from Canton consisted of sugar, and manufactures peculiar to that city, as well as a variety of drugs. They bought altogether above 120,000 pieces of calico, some camlets, but no other woollens.

There were few other junks that did any business. One arrived from Singapore, and is now discharging her cargo of dye-barks. Some of the smaller crafts coasting along Kwangtung Province bought a variety of British manufactures, not exceeding 10,000 dollars in amount.

The following salt vessels arrived.—36 from Kwelsen, 16 from Hae-hong, 1 from Ting-hae, which imported altogether 13,200 piculs. The trade has for several days been at a stand.

(Signed) CHARLES GUTZLAFF.
*Assistant Magistrate in the Chinese
Department.*

Victoria, 2d August, 1845.

We are authorised to state that Government have instructed the Assessors to make a deduction of 40 per cent. from their valuation of property in Hong-kong subject to Police Rate.
Hong-kong Register.

AUSTRALASIA.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—We have papers from Sydney to the 23rd July; Melbourne to the Paramatta, Geelong, and other provincial towns to corresponding dates. Sydney is reviving, and this time with strong hopes of permanent prosperity, as her commercial system after being most rudely dealt with, has, by dint of affliction, reformed itself. Fair play at the hands of the Colonial office is all she needs now; but when that is to come, Lord Stanley and Parliament only know! The squatter's question is the subject of painful and earnest discussion in the colony, and the subject of quit-rents is also occupying a good deal of attention in the papers.

The *Melbourne Courier* has been re-

vived in an enlarged form, and is edited by the proprietor, Mr. Alderman Kerr. Part of the type is of Colonial manufacture, from the foundry of Mr. Alexander Thompson, of Illawarra, and is said to be the first made from entirely colonial metal. In anticipation of a dissolution of the Legislative Council, Mr. Kerr had addressed the electors of the Melbourne district, as a candidate for representing them in that body. It is also said that Mr. J. P. Fawcner was about to commence a canvass for the same purpose.

Dr. Leichardt and Party.—Another rumour was prevalent at Brisbane, when the steamer *Sovereign* left Moreton Bay, on the 13th instant, that Dr. Leichardt was alive, and, with his party, was on his way back to the settled districts. This intelligence, which we trust may prove to be correct, was brought by some blacks, who had just arrived from the wilds in the direction taken by the venturesome band. The party which was about to proceed in search of the Doctor and his followers, nevertheless, intended to lose no time in ascertaining his fate.—*Australian*, July 17.

VAN DIEMEN'S LAND.—We have papers from Hobart Town to the 11th July.

The Bank of Australasia, and the Union Bank, had contributed to lower the rate on interest or money, and on discounts, by lending the Commissariat the sum of £60,000 at 6 per cent.

Information has been received by an official resident at Hobart Town, of the contemplated intention of the Home Government, to discontinue sending prisoners to this Colony, and in future to send them to Port Essington, which will be constituted a free port, and have an extensive Government establishment, the management of which will be offered to Captain Matthew Forster, if, as the same authority states, that gentleman declines the Governorship of this Colony, on the advancement of Sir Eardley Wilmot to the Governor-Generalship of New South Wales.—*Cornwall Chronicle*. Only a month before the arrival of this news, the Vandemonians had got

up a petition to the Imperial Government, for the abolition of the Probation System. The Queen has approved of the sum of £4,000 per annum, as the salary of his Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor of Van Diemen's Land.

HOBART TOWN.—Public attention is still on the *qui vivas* to the particulars of the bulky official despatches received by the late arrival. Little more is known with any degree of certainty respecting them than they were very voluminous and the deprived Lieutenant-Governor of his appetite to dine with the 51st Regt., which had invited him to mess the day after their receipt. What little has since oozed out, coupled with the ominous silence of the *Review*, which has failed to give his trumpet flourish to the usual effect, "that His Excellency has been honoured with despatches from the Secretary of State, the contents of which are of the most flattering and gratifying description," has tended to confirm the statement in our last number, that the burthen of the late despatches are of an unsatisfactory and unwelcome nature.

The result of the deliberation of the Executive has not yet transpired.

The rumours continue unabated, and comprise a fearful array against the interests of the colony. It is said the Lieutenant-Governor is directed to refund, as soon as possible, the advances made by the Commissariat. It is easy to believe *this* rumour is true. The sum due is about £97,000.

The expenditure in future is to be restricted within the probable bounds of the revenue. Nothing can be easier done if the Home Government would pay the proportion of the extra expenses with which we are oppressed by their penal discipline measures. If the remedy be forced upon the colony, by stringent docking and taxing, it will be by efforts both cruel and arbitrary in their results. Connected with this rumour, it is asserted that the police force is to be largely diminished.

Hobart Town and Launceston are to be favoured with Municipal Corporations. That is, the inhabitants will in future be permitted to tax themselves, for paving, lighting, waterings,

sewering, cleansing, improving, watching, &c., their towns.

Turnpikes are to be established. They may be established, but they will never pay the expense of their establishment.

Public works and road-making in the inhabited portion of the colony are virtually stopped. The convicts are to be withdrawn as much as possible from the settled districts, and in all cases are to provide for themselves as much as they can. In these out-stations they will be guarded by detachments of the military.

Such are a few of the principal oozeings of the despatches. The colony is to be used for Imperial purposes of Probation discipline, with as little regard to its effects upon the free inhabitants as their apathy will permit.

Who after this will refuse to sign the Petition? Who will say that such a remonstrance is not imperatively required?—*Hobart Town Courier*.

Probation Department.—A very important notice has been given by the Comptroller-General in the *Gazette*. It is an intimation to the holders of Conditional Pardons that they may, if desirous make application to have the limits of such pardons, which heretofore confined them to this island, extended to the limits of the Australian Colonies and New Zealand. By this regulation so vast an extent of territory will be thrown open to the holders of Conditional Pardons, that they will be virtually free. Sydney and its wide-spreading agricultural districts; Port Phillip, and its ramifications; South Australia, Swan River, and New Zealand, give a latitude for vast numbers of conditional men to act very unconditionally; nor do we see any reason to doubt that very many will include North and South America as within their limits. If the Lieutenant-Governor, with whom the approval rests of adding to the limits of the Conditional Pardon, allows our *best characters* only to go, it may be doubted how far this colony will be eventually benefited by the measure. If, on the other hand, His Excellency decides with the object of lessening the superabundant prisoner

population chiefly in view, the effect of transportation as a punishment will become, both here and at home, more ineffective as such than ever. We shall await with some curiosity the effect of this notice upon our neighbours, especially the South Australians, whose country so abounds in rich ores that they undermine their own territory and the Tasmanian character with equal celerity.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Papers from this Province to the 9th July, announce the total abolition of the Harbour Tonnage, Wharfage, and other Port Dues in South Australia. The Governor opened the Legislature on the 23rd June. The finances of the Colony appear to be in a very satisfactory state.

The salary of the Governor, for the time being, had been fixed at £1500 sterling per annum, to be secured upon the receipts of the Customs.

An Act was passed by the Legislative Council, on the 3rd July, which abolishes all dues of every description upon vessels entering or departing from the ports of this province. As this measure has come into force from and after the date of its passing the Council, no vessel entering Port Adelaide, or any other port of the province, will henceforth be called to pay any thing for Pilotage, Light, Harbor, Clearance, or Wharfage.

The Port is FREE in the most extensive sense of the word, to the shipping of the whole world.

The importance of this resolution on the part of his Excellency, warmly responded to as it has been by a unanimous Council, must be productive of effects the most decisive for the future welfare of the Colony; and of benefits extensively affecting our own commerce, as well as the shipping interests of these Colonies, and of the Empire, many vessels desirous of visiting our harbour having been deterred by the heavy charges which were deemed indispensable to Colonial Finance. We rejoice in contemplating the assured benefits which must accrue to the Province from the extensive diffusion of the cheering intelligence; and fondly anticipate an extensive influx of regular

and speculative arrivals, both for the purposes of inter-Colonial commerce, and with a view to the ample and remunerative freights which will constantly await them for the home market, and to which the steadily increasing productions of our successful mines essentially contribute, directly and indirectly. Added to all these, we may confidently expect numerous visitors for repairs and refreshments, both whalers and merchantmen, and we feel assured the period is not far distant, when the beneficial effects of the new line of policy will ramify and demonstrate themselves throughout every interest in the community, in such a manner as that they may be sensibly felt and acknowledged by every individual.

Thanks to the judicious measures of Governor Grey, and to the firmness and discreet promptitude with which he has carried them out, we have at length attained a firm position, and have laid the sure foundations of national wealth and honour.—*S. A. Register.*

A Bill for ascertaining the number of inhabitants of South Australia for 1846, had been passed. When the census for 1844 was taken, the population amounted to 17,366; but the influx of Emigrants since that period, has been such as to induce a belief that it now considerably exceeds 20,000.

His Excellency has announced his intention of forming a township at Rivoli Bay, and establishing a mail to Portland Bay, and for these purposes, votes were taken for an addition to the Police force, and for the sum of £600 to establish the mail.

The Mining Association.—No less than £1400 was paid on Saturday on account of the balance of the first call. When the association was started, £500 were paid in eight days. The cash capital, after paying for a considerable quantity of land, amounts to £1700. Advance, South Australia!—*South Australian, July 8th.*

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

We have papers from Cape Town

to the 26th Sept., and from Graham's Town to Nov. 18th.

The estimates for 1846 had been laid before the Council. Official statements also made in council represent the colonial finances in a most flourishing condition. The whole of the colonial debt it was expected would be extinguished at the close of the year 1846.

It is intended shortly to establish a uniform rate of postage throughout the colony, at 4d. per half ounce weight, whatever may be the distance. The Government not wishing to make the Post-office a source of revenue, this rate will be reduced as soon as it can be afforded. And in order to effect this reduction the clerks to the Civil Commissioners and Resident Magistrates, with the exception of those at Graham's Town and Port Elizabeth, are to be employed as postmasters, to save £387 per annum.

The *Commercial Advertiser* states that in Council—

"In answer to a question by Mr. Ebdon, Mr. Montagu stated that the Lieut.-Governor had sent in his resignation; and Mr. Ebdon gave notice that he would move to the effect that the office of Lieut.-Governor should be abolished.

Mr. Montagu also stated that an Agent-General was about to be appointed, whose residence should be on the immediate border, and whose sole duty would be to superintend the relations and the operation of the treaties now subsisting between the colony and the border tribes. This, with a post twice a week, will much more than compensate for a Lieut.-Governor.

From the same papers we find that it is proposed to establish a new Steam Navigation Company, to consist of 64 shares of £100 each—the new company to take over the *Phoenix* with all the liabilities of the old company supposed not to amount to more than £4,500.

NATAL.—The Gazette announces the appointment of E. E. BOYCE, Esq., W. STRANGER, Esq., and W. S. FIELD, Esq., to be Magistrates for the newly-created District of Port Natal.

Besides these appointments, it is understood that the following have been fixed, though not yet Gazetted:—MARTIN WEST, Esq., late Civil Commissioner of Albany, to be Lt.-Governor, at a salary of £800 per annum.;—and the Hon. HENRY CLOETE, late Commissioner at Natal, to be Recorder, at a salary of £700. An office combining the duties of Treasurer General and Registrar of Deeds, with a salary of £500, has also, we understand, been offered to, but declined by, Mr. J. LE SUEUR, and is now offered to Mr. MOODIE, well known as the compiler of the "Colonial Records."—*Cape Town Mail*.

We are informed that J. SKIRROW, Esq., Civil Engineer, has been appointed by the government to survey the Mouth of the Kowie, with a view to ascertaining its suitability as a Port for shipping. This gentleman has the reputation of being an able engineer, with considerable experience, and we may therefore confidently expect that the duty to which he is thus appointed will be discharged so as to remove all existing doubts upon a subject of such confessedly great importance to the inhabitants of this Frontier.—*Graham's Town Journal*.

WEST INDIES.

ANTIGUA.—Our files from this island are to the 25th October. Sir Charles Fitz Roy had announced to the Legislature his recall from the Government of the Leeward Islands, and his appointment as successor to Sir George Gipps, in New South Wales. Addresses of regret had been voted to his Excellency by both Houses. It was reported that a grant was about to be made to Sir Charles by the Legislature, of 1000 guineas. Some of the island papers are discussing the folly and unseasonableness of this extravagant compliment. Surrounded by heavy liabilities—compelled, by awful calamities, to resort to the borrowing system—deeply pledged to return the Mother Country, at no very distant period, the £100,000 sterling which was forwarded under the conviction that we were in want, and at the instance of that very

Governor, how can we afford—how can we possibly give away £1000 stg? are the prospects of the country such as to warrant this lavish expenditure?—Have the various branches of the revenue increased to such an extent as to justify a measure of the kind? Alas, no!—and there is no prospect of increased receipts for the approaching year. The crops will fall much behind-hand,—the imports and exports (a principal part of the Colonial revenue) of this year are below those of the last—and now that the labourers, taught by experience, are planting provisions, those duties will be farther decreased. £20,000 sterling has been granted for the repairs of Churches, &c., and £50,000 more, at least, will be demanded for that purpose. How are we to be prepared to meet these demands, save but by taxation, or to return the £100,000 sterling, borrowed from Government? and it surely does not look like economy to vote away hundreds and thousands, for no other purpose than to convey a compliment!

The corner-stone of the new Cathedral at St. John's had been laid with great ceremony. C. T. Cunningham had arrived in Antigua to administer the General Government. The Hon. W. G. Cooke, President of the Council, would act as Lieutenant-Governor at St. Kitts. Captain Shortland, the newly appointed President of Nevis, had arrived out. Colonel Doyle, Lieutenant-Governor of Grenada, left that island on the 25th, safe for England, for the recovery of his health. The temporary administration of the Government has devolved on the Hon. F. Y. Chicheley, President of the island. Sir John Campbell, Bart., the Governor of St. Vincent, was installed on the 13th October.

BARBADOS.—We have papers to the 25th October. A Company for supplying Bridgwater with pure water had been formed, and the subject of Docks is mooted in the papers in connection with the railroad. New writs were issued for the Annual General Election of Representatives to the Assembly, on the 16th September.

The resignation of the Hon. and

Rev. J. H. Gittens not having been accepted by Her Majesty, he still continues a member of the Council Board.

The Poll took place in the several Parishes on the 6th October.

The following is the list of new Members returned:—

Christ Church.—Geo. Donovan, and John Le Gall.

St. Philip.—J. R. Gooding, and J. E. Blades.

St. Michael.—John Inniss, and J. Holligan.

St. George.—The Hon. J. Sealy, and J. Thomas.

St. James.—Samuel Branch, and J. Corbin.

St. John.—Josiah Heath, and Grant Thomas, M.D.

St. Thomas.—J. S. Bascom, and J. G. Grant.

St. Peter.—F. Goding, M.D., and A. Foderingham.

St. Lucy.—H. N. Springer, and E. J. Archer.

St. Andrew.—G. N. Taylor, and H. Crichlow.

St. Joseph.—J. W. Grogan, and G. Sharpe.

Bridgeton.—The Hon. H. E. Sharpe, and S. J. Prescod, Esq.

The Election for the Parish of St. Lucy has been declared void, in consequence of the neglect of the Sheriff to publish the writ.

DOMINICA.—We have advices to the 25th October. We are sorry to see the change that is taking place in the state of political parties and of public affairs generally in this Colony, which bodes no good to the progress and prosperity of the island. Party feeling and local prejudices have too long been suffered to ruin the general welfare. The Hon. T. W. Doyle, the Speaker of the House, who has been so long persecuted by the Liberal party, and finding the political principles to which he was opposed gaining the ascendancy in the House, resigned his seat, and Mr. Joseph de Belgens, a Liberal, was returned in his stead. Mr. L. St. Ville Gilbert had also resigned his seat. A deputation from the planters and inhabitants had waited upon and presented an address, &c.

PRINCE EDWARD'S ISLAND.—We notice the following in the *Royal Gazette*:—"Believing that a well-conducted Geological Survey might result in most important benefits, I think it might be useful to make it known through *Simmonds's Colonial Magazine*, that a sum has been appropriated for a Geological Survey of this colony. Some properly qualified person, desirous of visiting this interesting quarter of the Globe, might be thus induced to give us his services for little more than would cover his expenses; or, with the approbation of the Executive, Professor Buckland might be consulted, and his advice obtained in this matter, were they chosen by the Royal Society Committee of Correspondence. It is no much to expect a Secretary to manage the general business of the Society, and maintain the correspondence required for the promotion of the farming cause, and show us the stimulating strides in improvements made in less favored soils and climates."

Notice to Mariners.—The Light House on Point Prim, P. E. Island, (a brick building), is now erected, and ready for the reception of the Lantern, which, it is expected, will be completed in a few days. Vessels bound up or down the Gulf will observe that the trees are now cut down from off the Point, and cleared away. This notice is given for the purpose of warning Mariners, in case they mistake Point Prim for any other point of Land, and run the risk of being lost. A vessel bound for Charlottetown, fell into this mistake the other day, and passed the harbour to the westward—we believe in the night—and on returning, got on the Wood Islands, and was obliged to throw over-board a part of her cargo to enable her to float off again.—*Islander.*

By the Custom House Books for the Port of Charlottetown, we observe that that, during this season, there has been shipped to the West Indies, Bermuda, Newfoundland, Quebec, United States, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick, up to the present time, about 38,000 bushels of Potatoes.

NEWFOUNDLAND.—We have dates
VOL. VI.—NO. 24. DECEMBER, 1845.

by ship to the 9th of November, but they contain little of interest. We congratulate our friends in Newfoundland and Nova Scotia on their prospect of improved means of communication between those two colonies, as we understand, on good authority, that the splendid steamer *Unicorn* has been purchased by Mr. Whitney, the contractor to be put on that route, and will leave for Halifax early in March next.

It is a fact worthy perhaps of a passing notice that the whole of the land in and about the neighbourhood of Conception Bay—very probably the whole island—is rising out of the ocean at a rate which promises at no very distant day materially to affect, if not render useless, many of the best harbours we have now on the coast. At Port-de-Grave a series of observations has been made which undeniably proves the rapid displacement of the sea level in that vicinity. Several large rocks over which schooners might pass some 30 or 40 years ago with the greatest facility, are now approaching the surface, the water being navigable for a skiff. At a place called the Cosh, at the head of the Bay Roberts, upwards of a mile from the seashore, and at several feet above its level, covered with five or six feet of vegetable mould, there is a perfect *beach*—the stones being rounded, of a moderate size, and in all respects similar to those now found in the adjacent land-washes.—*Harbour Grace Herald.*

CANADA.—The last *Official Gazette* announces the further prorogation of the Provincial Parliament to the 19th of November; and then not to meet for the dispatch of business. It is said that Parliament will not actually meet till February.

A Hamilton paper says, that Kingston, Queenston, and other places on the Canadian frontier, are to be strongly fortified.

Moukland, 20th Oct., 1845. The afflicting malady under which His Excellency the Governor General has been laboring, for a number of years, and which has slowly and almost imperceptibly been producing a morbid alteration in the cheek, has within the last

ten days assumed a phagedænic character, by which a portion of the soft parts of the cheek, have been destroyed. The violence of the action in a great measure yielded for a day or two but has not yet subsided.

His Excellency's health has not materially suffered, although it has been necessary for him to observe a very rigid abstinence.

JAMES CRAWFORD, M. D.

ROBT., L. MACDONELL, M. D.

We understand a splendid formation of slate has been discovered within about forty miles of the navigable communication of Lake Huron, the quarry contains slates of all dimensions and thicknesses from two inches to the eighth of an inch. We trust that some enterprising individuals will, by introducing slate as a covering for our houses, thus afford one preventative to our frequent fires. We have also been shewn some beautiful specimens of white marble, nearly as white as statuary, and also of the "Verde Antique" as it is called, and which exists in inexhaustible quantities upon the cliffs of the Gananoque Lake a few miles only below Kingston.—*Kingston Chronicle*.

Mineral Survey of Canada.—The report on a Geological Survey of Canada, presented to the House of Assembly last session, and ordered to be printed is now published, and contains matter of much general interest.

The Limestone formation, says the report, extends at least 30,000 square miles of the surface of the province. It abounds in excellent materials, and its quality in many places is sufficiently hard to take a fine polish, and yield a good marble.

But in this vast district, we regret to say, the search for coal will not be successful. Taking into consideration the extremely moderate dip and the undisturbed condition of the strata of limestone, and the general even geographical surface of the country, and also the depth of the strata below the point at which coal formations are found, we are not warranted reasonably

to anticipate the finding of any coal between the top of Lake Huron and Quebec.

But of Iron the quantity found in the Province is likely to prove very considerable. Considering the valuable deposits of this mineral already known in Marmora, Madoc, Bedford, Hull, &c., and the deflection of the magnet over regions of great extent, it is not unreasonable to hope that a diligent search may disclose provincial beds of equal consequence of those of New York State.

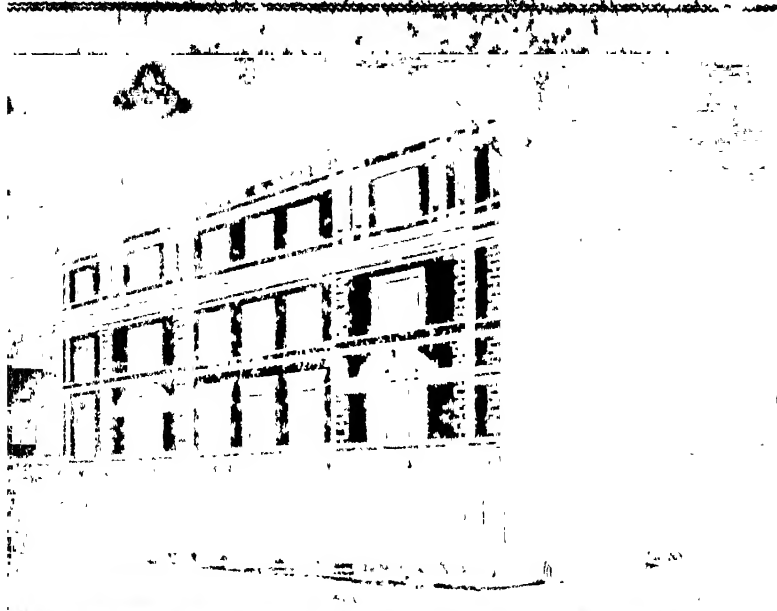
The deposit of gypsiferous shale, so valuable for its gypsum salt, hydraulic lime, occupies nearly all that part of land which separates Lake Ontario from Lake Erie, skirts the shore of the former lake through Niagara county, passes by Cayuga, York, and Paris, near Galt, on the Grand River, and turns northward towards Aabot's Head on Lake Huron. The thickness of this deposit is estimated at 300 feet. About three and a half miles below Cayuga, there is a hard solid bed of water lime, thirty feet thick. The gypsum, it appears, is deposited in detached masses, almost invariably assuming more or less of a conical shape. Adjacent to the gypsum, and indeed sometimes intermixed with it, are vast quantities of water lime. The beds worked in York and Paris are extensive, and produce excellent gypsum. This part of Canada, we are informed, extending from Galt to Cayuga cannot fail in time, from the mineral contents of the subsoil to become one of the most valuable parts of the Province.

An interesting discovery has been made of the existence of Lithographic Stone at Rama, on Lake Simcoe. It is of the best quality, and the supply is very large, which is the more satisfactory, inasmuch as this stone is only to be found in one other place in the world—Solenhofen on the Danube—and has hitherto commanded a monopoly price.

NOVA SCOTIA.—The following important and highly satisfactory dispatch, to Lord Auckland, on the subject of allowing the Americans to fill in the

SIMMONDS'S COLONIAL MAGAZINE.

ADVERTISING SHEET FOR JANUARY, 1916.



THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.—The high estimate formed by the public during the ten years RIPPON and BURTON'S chemically purified material has been before it (made into every useful and ornamental article usually made in silver, possessing, as it does, the characteristic purity and durability of silver), has called into existence the deleterious compounds of "Albats Plate," "Berlin Silver," and other so-called substitutes; they are at best but bad imitations of the genuine articles manufactured, with the view of satisfying the purchaser, by RIPPON and BURTON, and sold only by them.

	Fiddle	Thread	King's
	Pattern.	Pattern.	Pattern.
Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen	12s. 0d.	33s. 0d.	30s. 0d.
Dessert " " and ditto " " ditto	10s. 0d.	21s. 0d.	25s. 0d.
Tea " " and ditto " " ditto	5s. 0d.	11s. 0d.	12s. 0d.
Gravy " " and ditto " " ditto	4s. 0d.	6s. 0d.	7s. 0d.

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Teaspoons, per dozen	18s. 0d.	22s. 0d.	38s. 0d.
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Dessert Spoons	30s. 0d.	42s. 0d.	62s. 0d.
Table Forks	30s. 0d.	68s. 0d.	75s. 0d.
Table Spoons	40s. 0d.	72s. 0d.	80s. 0d.

Tea and Coffee Sets, Waiters, Candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of replating done by the Patent process. Detailed catalogues, with engravings, as well as of every ironmongery article, sent (per post) free.

IVORY-HANDLED TABLE KNIVES, 10s. PER DOZEN.

ivory-handled table knives, with high shoulders, 10s. per dozen, if to balance 1s. per dozen extra; desserts, 9s.; carvers, 8s. 6d. per pair; white bone table knives, 6s. per dozen; desserts, 4s.; carvers, 2s. per pair; black horn table knives, 6s. per dozen; desserts, 4s.; carvers, 2s. 6d.; table steels, 1s. each. Table knives, with handles of the celebrated substitute for silver, made only by R. and B. (which cannot be distinguished from sterling silver, except by the mark) 22s. 6d. per dozen; desserts, 18s.; carvers per pair, 6s. 6d. All marked "RIPPON and BURTON," and warranted.

RIPPON and BURTON's Stock of General Furnishing Ironmongery is literally the largest in the world. They regret they cannot employ any language which will convey an adequate impression of its variety and extent; they therefore invite purchasers to call and inspect it.

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Comfort in Sleeping and Travelling.

Ou pour s'être.

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"The Templer Cap.—Under this name, we commend one of the best Travelling or nightly coverings for the head we have yet seen."—*Polytechnic Review*.

"The Templer Cap.—A most welcome change to men and for ladies—a truly elegant and exceedingly comfortable Cap, whether for travelling, returning from the Opera or Soiree."—*Court Gazette*.

A neat Assortment of French Cambric Pocket Handkerchiefs, Cravats, &c., and a few Novelties from Paris. Some Bargains in the remainder of the late Partnership Stock.

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COUGHS, COLDS, AND CATARRHS EFFECTUALLY CURED BY KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES.

The value of these Lozenges (WHICH are UNDER the PATRONAGE of ROYALTY, NOBILITY and CLERGY) admits of no possible question, both on account of the numerous orders constantly received, and the most various and respectable testimonials gratuitously forwarded. Thirty years' experience has fully proved their great utility, not only in the ordinary cases of cough and cold, but in various kinds of asthmatic and consumptive complaints, whether constitutional or otherwise. They possess also the very desirable recommendations that they produce no inconvenience, require no precaution, and effect a cure of these maladies in an incredibly short space of time.

RECENT TESTIMONIALS.

"SIR—I should feel much obliged to you if you would send me a tin of your most excellent Lozenges, for, having tried them, I find they are the best remedy for Cough that can possibly be had: this I can testify from experience, for I have been troubled with a most violent cough for many years, and have tried many things, but without any benefit, until I met with your Lozenges, and they afforded me instant relief. I remain, Sir, yours truly,
"HENRY WOODERSON."

"1, North Peltham place, near Hounslow, Feb. 12, 1845."

"To Mr. Keating, St. Paul's."

"DEAR SIR—Having been for a considerable time during the winter afflicted with a violent cough, particularly at lying down in bed, which continued for several hours incessantly, and after trying many medicines without the slightest effect, I was induced to try your Lozenges; and, by taking about half a box of them, in less than twenty-four hours, the cough entirely left me, and I have been entirely free from it ever since. I am, dear Sir, yours very respectfully,
"JAMES ELLIS,"

(Late proprietor of the Chapter Coffee-house, St. Paul's.)

"9, Claremont-terrace, Pentonville, Feb. 17, 1845."

"To Mr. Keating."

"Cheetham Hill, July 22nd, 1845."

"DEAR SIR—Having been for a long time troubled with a bad cough, which at times was so bad that when I went to bed I could get no rest the night through, I tried a great variety of medicines, from which I received but very little relief, until I made trial of KEATING'S LOZENGES, which, I am happy to say, have been of great benefit to me; for with taking one or two during the day, and one at bed-time, I can rest better than I have done for several years. As they have been of so much service to me, I think it my duty to make this known to the public, and hope those who are similarly afflicted will make a trial of so valuable a remedy.

"I remain, dear Sir, yours respectfully,

"To Mr. Walmaley, Cheetham Hill," "W. T. HESKETH."

"Dover, January 25th, 1845."

"SIR—I have great pleasure in informing you that the 2s. 9d. box of KEATING'S COUGH LOZENGES, had at your house about three weeks since, has relieved Mrs. Hiller of a bad Cough, to which she has been subject many years, especially in the winter season. A considerable portion of the Lozenges are on hand, nor has she for the last fortnight had any occasion to use them.

"Yours respectfully,

"Mr. S. Marten, Dover." "F. I. HILLER."

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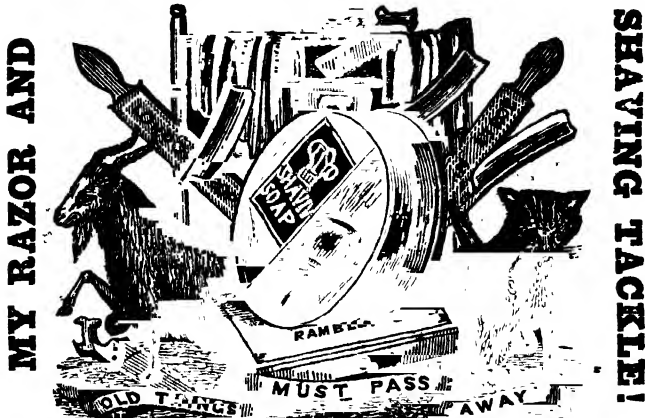
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I, William Whinney Gearing, of Smart's Buildings, Holborn, in the County of Middlesex, Printer, do solemnly declare that I have printed Nineteen Thousand Five Hundred Copies of Messrs. Curtis and Company's Medical Work, **MANHOOD**, exclusive of the Twentieth Edition now printing by me, and that the whole of these copies were duly delivered to Mr. William Wilton, Bookbinder, residing at No. 6, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, from the month of May, one thousand eight hundred and forty, to February one thousand eight hundred and forty-four; and I make this solemn declaration, conscientiously believing the same to be true.

WILLIAM WHINNEY GEARING.

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this 6th day of April, 1844, before me, } Lord Mayor of London.

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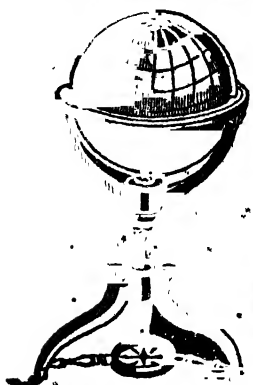
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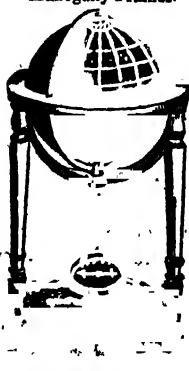
18-in. mahog. 12 gs the pair
18-in. rosewood, 14 gs "
12-in. mahogany, 6 gs "

No. 2.
French Polished Frames.



18-in. rosewood, 17 gs the pair
18-in. Span. mahog. 15 gs "
18-in. plain mahog. 12 gs "
12-in. rosewood, 8 1/2 gs "
12-in. Span. mahog. 7 1/2 gs "

No. 5
Mahogany Frames.



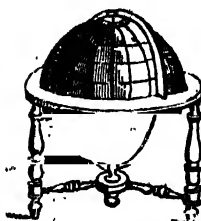
18-in. 10 gs the pair.
12-in. 5 1/2 gs

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French Polished Frames.



18-in. rosewood, 17 gs the pair
12-in. Span. mahog. 7 1/2 gs

No. 6.



18-in. mahog. £3 0 0 the pair
18-in. stained wood, 7 gs "
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12-in. stain. wood, 3 1/2 gs "

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piled from the most recent Geographical Surveys, with the aid of the accounts given by the best travellers; and there is annexed on the 18-inch Globe a Table of the Population of the different countries in the World, compiled from the latest official Returns, and, where these are wanting, the best other authorities which could be obtained by Mr. G. S. BRENT, Fellow of the Statistical Society of London.

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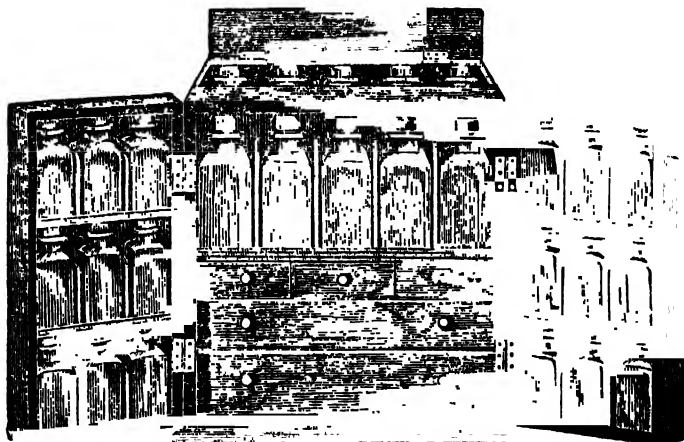
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SIMMONDS'S COLONIAL MAGAZINE.

No. 25.]

JANUARY, 1846.

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NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We are obliged to defer the insertion of many Articles, particularly a Paper in continuation of "Colonial Railways and their Prospects," "Curiosities of Colonial Literature," "Statistics of the Cape Colony," "Sketches of Grenada Scenery, No. 2," "Statistics of New South Wales and some Account of Prince of Wales Island."

LATEST DATES

OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWSPAPERS, PRICES CURRENT, AND SHIPPING
LISTS, received at the COLONIAL MAGAZINE OFFICE, to the 30th December.

Places.	Dates.	Places.	Dates.	Places.	Dates.	Places.	Dates.
Europe—Mediterr.		Tobago	Nov 14	Wellington	July 20	Newfoundland	
Gibraltar	Dec 20	Trinidad	Nov 18	East Indies—		St. John's	Dec. 8
Malta	Dec 17	Africa—		Mauritius	Sep 30	Harb.—Grace Dec. 5	
Corfu	Dec 10	Algiers	Dec. 21	Bombay	Dec. 1	Canada—	
West India—		C. of Good Hope	Nov. 1	Calcutta	Nov. 22	Montreal	Dec. 12
Antigua	Nov 27	Grah. Town	Oct 24	Madras	Nov. 22	Quebec	Dec. 10
Bahamas		Australasia—		Delhi	Nov. 13	Kingston	Dec. 8
Barbados	Nov 22	N South Wales		Agra	Nov. 13	Toronto	Dec. 9
Berberce	Nov 17	Sydney	Aug 17	Ceylon	Nov. 13	United States	
Bermuda		Geelong	Aug 9	Penang	Nov. 8	Boston	Dec. 16
Dominica		Maitland	Aug 14	Singapore	Nov. 18	New York	Dec. 15
Grenada	Nov 25	Port Phillip	Aug 10	Hong Kong	Oct. 31	Philadelphia	Dec. 14
Guiana, British	Nov 19	South Australia—		British N. America—		Baltimore	Dec. 12
Havannah	Nov 10	Adelaide	Aug 9	New Brunswick—		Washington	Dec. 9
Honduras	Oct. 20	Western Australia—		St. John	Dec 16	Charleston	Dec. 10
Jamaica, Kingst	Nov 22	Perth	July 29	Fredericton	Dec 12	New Orleans	
Palmouth	Nov 15	Van Diemen's Land—		Nova Scotia		South America—	
Monro Bay	Nov 17	Hobart Town	Aug 12	Halifax	Dec 18	Rio de Janeiro	Nov. 12
St. Christopher	Nov 23	Launceston	Aug 6	Pictou	Dec 14	Monte Video	Oct. 12
St. Lucia	Nov 25	New Zealand—		Yarmouth	Dec 16	Buenos Ayres	Sep. 30
St Vincent	Nov 26	Auckland	June 20	Prince Edw. Isl		Valparaiso	Sep. 5
St. Thomas	Nov 30	Nelson	July 12	Charlotte-town	Dec 14		



SIMMONDS'S COLONIAL MAGAZINE.

ACCOUNT OF THE SETTLEMENT OF NELSON, NEW ZEALAND.

(FROM THE NELSON EXAMINER.)

Site of Town; Country Districts; Soil---Population---Roads---Cultivation and Live Stock---Flour, Flax, and Saw-mills; Rope-walks---Coal; Lime; Bricks---Brewery---Jetties; Bridges; Vessels and Boats---Necessaries and Comforts of Life produced for Home Consumption: Food; Clothing; Shelter---Hops; Salt and Tan-pits---Exports: Wool; Timber; Furniture-wood; Spars; Seal Skins; Oil; Flax; Beer---Imports, and Number and Tonnage of Ships arrived---Provision for Government and Defence; for Public Worship, Education, &c.---Social State---Beauty of Climate; Comparative Absence of Natives.

THE third anniversary of the arrival of the first body of settlers at Nelson has just passed pleasantly away. It is a fitting time to let our friends at home know what we have done so far, what we are doing, how we are situated, what are our prospects.

Exaggeration in accounts sent home of New Zealand has often been complained of, and often justly. We are convinced it is as bad in policy as in principle. It creates unreasonable expectations in emigrants at home, which, on their arrival here, are followed by proportionate disappointment and equally unreasonable despondency. Then, in their turn, they write unfavourable accounts, as much exaggerated on the dark side, as those which brought them out were on the bright side. They themselves fail because disgusted, or run away as soon as they can. So the fancied good result of the exaggeration of advantages, that of enticing emigrants, is lost immediately; the actual ill result alone remains, in exaggerated disparagements of settlements and settlers. Therefore, were it but for policy's sake, we mean, if we can, to tell the truth.

Besides, we have no motive for exaggeration. We believe the settlement to be a desirable one for emigrants; its state to be wholesome, and soberly thriving. It will stand what Bacon calls "the naked and open daylight of truth, though it do not show it half so stately and daintily, as the candle-light"—of puffery. So we mean, if we can, to tell the truth.

If we can, we say; for it is somewhat difficult both to tell the truth in these cases, and to put it into the mind of another. For we cannot

VOL. VII.—NO. 25. JANUARY, 1846.

B

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have the evidence of our own senses for all we say; much must depend upon the words of others, who may misinform, be misinformed, or deceive themselves. Then the same words convey different ideas to different persons. Our readers at home may attach one idea to a phrase or epithet, ~~we~~ another. Therefore a wrong notion produced will not necessarily argue want of inclination on our part to produce a right one, but only want of ability.

Transplanting a community is like transplanting a tree. For many days it looks dead and withered; but if, after plucking off a dead leaf here, lopping away a dead branch there, you find the green and living stem proves it has taken root, you are satisfied. So in all cases of transplanted communities, many individual undertakings must fail; many limbs, useless ones to the body indeed, must be pruned away. Such has been the case with us, may be so still; but meanwhile our root has taken good hold of, and is in living communion with, the soil we are set in. Some capital has withered away unproductively, some stragglers have been removed; let us look at the healthy pruned plant remaining.

There is a town on a site which, first seen, coming from the sea, shows you a mudflat at low-water, disagreeable enough to *the eye*, but in no other way. The nearest hills being fern-clad, look somewhat barren. Nevertheless, what the Bishop of New Zealand says of the site is true: "It is extremely pretty—a small plain surrounded by lofty hills." Seaward a screen of wood runs half way across it. Two winding and partially-wooded level valleys diverge from it landward, down each of which flows a stream, winter and summer. The harbour is safe, and with a pilot of easy access. The view thence across Tasman's Gulf would anywhere be styled remarkably beautiful.

The country districts are valleys opening into the bottom of the gulf, separated by low hills, and into Massacre Bay. These are all surveyed. The land in them is good, bad, and indifferent; no two opinions agree as to the relative proportions of each kind. As to the relative qualities, flax land is considered the best; wood land next, but, from the expense of clearing, it is not often attempted here. Fern land should have a summer's fallow and a winter's frost; it will then yield a good crop of potatoes, and the next year of grain. Sheepfolding secures a good crop from fern land the first year. An experiment is being made on the very worst land of all—the clay hills between the Waimea and Moutere. A patch is sown with turnips, to be fed down with sheep, and a good crop is expected for the second year. One fact is positive, and it is sufficient: there are thousands of acres of good land; enough to employ thousands of emigrants for years; when they are all cultivated it will be time to consider the rest.

* The population of the town is 758 males, 702 females; total, 1,460.

* The figures in the paragraphs to which asterisks are prefixed, are taken from the Government returns, for a sight of which we are indebted to Major Richmond.

Of the country, 802 males, 653 females; total, 1,455.* There are 121 Germans, making the whole number of settlers 3,036. To these should be added about 43 souls, arrived in the Slains Castle and the Caledonia since the returns were made. The births during the past year (1844) have been 159; the marriages, 15; the deaths, 26, 7 of which were by accidents. The population is greater than at the last return of October, 1843.†

The roads already made to the country districts are as follows:—One from Nelson to beyond the village of Wakefield, in the valley it has been proposed to call Glen-iti, 21 miles. This road, for the first two miles from town, wants gravelling, to be good in winter; also for a mile, six miles from town, and at a few other places. During the dry months (eight out of the twelve), a coach and four might be driven all the way to Glen-iti; and Mr. Stafford, and the Hon. C. A. Dillon, contrived to get their gigs from the Waimea through the worst parts, *all* last winter. The cross roads from this line amount to 8 miles; they open out and drain various blocks of land, much resorted to just now. From Glen-iti, pack-horses or bullocks can travel all the way to the big wood at this end of the Wairau Valley, without difficulty, at all seasons. The wood, 12 miles in extent, could easily be cut through, being of black birch without underwood. Parts only of the road from the Waimea to Motuaka, equal in all to 10 miles, have been made. There is, however, a good horse track over the hills in those parts in which it is not completed. From Motuaka to Rewaka, three miles and a half are made. Of the road to Wakapuaka and the Happy Valley, 9 miles are completed; very little is wanted to make it a good cart and horse road at all seasons. The roads above enumerated pass ground of various kinds—through swamps, woods, or fern,—and require in some places heavy cuttings or embankments, in many drainage, in some only cutting of the fern.

About the town are the Haven Road, one mile and a half, the sea-wall much damaged now; beyond the town sections, that to Brook Street Valley, 1 mile; up the Maitai, half a mile. Total extent of roads, 54 miles and a half.

* It must be remembered that in the term "the town" are included the greater part of Brook Street and Maitai Valleys, which are cultivated much as country land; also, that the wives and families of recent settlers on *country* land are living in the town. These facts account for the apparent disproportion of country population to that of the town.

† Statistics of Nelson, taken in the last week of October, 1843:—

POPULATION.—Males, 1,588; females, 1,354; total, 2,942.

AMOUNT OF LIVE STOCK.—Horses, 50; cattle, 560; sheep, 1,130; goats, 117; swine, 1,152; poultry, 2,202.

LAND IN CULTIVATION.—Farm land, 540 acres; gardens, 133 acres; total, 673 acres.

NUMBER OF BUILDINGS.—Brick, wooden, and mud houses—town, 413; country, 191; total, 604. Warehouses, shops, and barns—town, 20; country, 25; total, 45. Warrés—town, 39; country, 76; total, 115. Public buildings—town, 15. Mills—country, 3.

EDUCATION.—Children at day schools—males, 157; females, 164; total, 321.

* We have in cultivation 1,262 acres ; of which 237 are in wheat ; 182 barley ; oats, 93 ; potatoes, 288 ; turnips, 15 ; tares, 5 ; English grass, 5 ; the rest, gardens or fallow. The average produce of the country lands is reckoned at 25 bushels of wheat per acre ; 26 barley ; 25 oats ; 6 tons potatoes. In the town, wheat 30 bushels per acre ; barley 25 ; oats, 40 ; potatoes, 9 tons ;—the difference being owing to the fact that the town crops are from gardens, and chiefly woodland ; the country chiefly from farms on fern and some flax land. The particular amount of cultivation in each district is not given ; but by far the greater part is in the Waimea plain, where most of what can be called farms are. There are two or three at Motuaka, and as many at Wakapuaka. The cottier-farmers are principally located in the Poor Man's Valley, and the German settlement of Ranzau, in Waimea East ; Glen-iti, or the Waiti Valley, Waimea South ; and the beautiful Rewaka Valley, north of Motuaka.

* Of stock there are—horned cattle, 918 ; horses, 76 ; sheep, 5,782 ; goats, 250 ; poultry, 3,584 ; pigs, 1,512. By importation and breeding, cattle have increased to nearly twice the number in the last returns ; sheep to more than five times the number.

The number of buildings of all kinds in the settlement is not given in the returns, but those in the town, most probably, have not much increased since the last returns, though a few superior ones of brick of different kinds have been added. In the country the number must have increased considerably. We will mention the most important in both, as they occur to us in stating the purposes to which they are applied.

A flour-mill is on the point of completion in the town, in a brick building, the wheel horizontal, on the plan of Baxter and Stirratt's patent, turned by water supplied by a lead (tunnelled 44 yards, open 110, and raised on wooden posts 242 yards) from the stream in Brook Street Valley ; it has at present only one pair of stones, but has power for three ; fall 19 feet. Another flour-mill is being erected by the cottiers, in the Rewaka Valley, where there is an abundance of excellent material for stones, from which a pair has been prepared. There are three saw-mills : one in the Motuaka, which cuts 20,000 feet of timber a week ; a frame saw-mill in Waimea West, working two saws, and cutting 1,000 feet a day ; and a mill in Waimea South, working a circular saw, two feet in diameter, cutting 100 feet an hour. It has a small flour-mill attached. A flax-mill in Waimea East, of 10 horse water power, is at present unworked. One in the Waimea Road, of 3 or 4 horse power, has been constantly employed ; the owner has hackling instruments, and has a greater demand for his whale-line and rope than he can supply ; he has lately removed it to a stream of greater power in Suburban North. There is another rope-walk in the town. Some smiths at the Motuaka have been directing their attention for some time to the construction of a machine for dressing flax, and having perfected a model—they are now making the machinery, and a windmill to work it. The flax machines brought out by Messrs. Natrass and Edwards are put up in the Company's old store at the

Haven, and are now at work there ; a larger building is to be immediately erected at Auckland Point. We may mention here that several hand-machines for flax have been made ; they will not clean more than 6lbs. an hour, even if it be possible to produce that quantity for any number of consecutive hours, while one person is required to gather flax and serve the machine. Whether the wholesale proceedings of Messrs. Natrass and Edwards will admit of its being profitably dressed by hand remains to be seen ; if they should, we do not despair of seeing a machine invented that would be useful at all events for else unemployed hours in cottages.

At Motupipi (Massacre Bay), the bed of a flat dry at low-water is formed of bare coal, which, with a stratum exposed in the adjoining hills, is worked, we believe, by Messrs. Baker and Partridge (of Wellington). The coal burns clearly, but with smoky chimneys is disagreeable, from a slight sulphurous smell it has. Close by is a lime-kiln, whence the same gentlemen have lately sent a vessel with lime to New Plymouth. We have another lime-kiln in Suburban South, three miles from the town. Excellent limestone has lately been found in Suburban North, close to the sea-coast, with plenty of wood in the immediate vicinity, so as to afford greater advantages for burning and carriage than in any other situation. There are four brick-fields in the settlement, and a patent brick-machine. These thirsty subjects remind us of our malthouse and brewery, a model of completeness on a small scale, down to even the big English dray-horse lately defunct.

From the Haven Road three jetties have been thrown out ; one of them, running from a projecting piled embankment, if carried out a few feet farther, would admit of vessels of 300 tons lying alongside it. Another, on open piles, is about 200 feet in length, and runs from Auckland Point across the shingle beach to the channel of the Maitai. There are two bridges for carts in the town. Two vessels of small tonnage and several boats have been built in Nelson, and three vessels in Massacre Bay.

Well, with these sources and means of production and accessories to trade, what is realised and what probably realisable for our own consumption or for export—what to be got from abroad ? How much of the necessities and comforts of life can we depend upon ourselves henceforward for ; and what “ good things ” have we to export in exchange for those we cannot immediately or advantageously produce for ourselves ? Among the necessities of life, we cannot expect to be independent of foreign countries for flour till next year, when we reasonably may : bread is meanwhile 2d. a pound ; beef and mutton (equal to those of any country in the world) are 6d. a pound, pork 4d. ; and most excellent beer has been brewed in Nelson at 2s. a gallon. Then fresh butter has been plentiful at 9d. and 10d. a pound, milk 1d. a pint, Nelson cheese 7d. a pound, eggs 1s. a dozen, fowls 2s. 6d. a pair, ducks 5s. Wild pigeons and ducks you may shoot, or buy from 1s. to 3d. a-piece. Several sorts of fish are caught in and outside the harbour, snappers so plentifully that you may often get one of 20lbs. for 6d. Then shrimps and oysters are in tolerable plenty, and in the

rivers are eels and crayfish. Most English vegetables we have in profusion ; most of the fruit trees thrive well, but as yet we have " realised," we believe, only strawberries, raspberries, gooseberries, currants, apples, peaches, plums, grapes, and cherries in small quantities, and melons and pumpkins in greater quantity. So one may contrive to live.

All these are *faits accomplis*. Salt of excellent quality has been made ; the sun and sea-breeze here greatly favour evaporation ; but the pits, perforated by crabs, require cementing, and this and other steps of the process require money, for which the saltmaker is stopping at present. But there is no doubt salt can be made, and will ere long, more cheaply than imported. Hops, to be an important item in New Zealand productions, have not been grown yet in useful quantities. There is a small plantation in Glen-iti, which promises well. The absence of the hop-fly is a great advantage.

To go from food to clothing. We cannot report much as actually done. But good rough woollen cloth has been woven, and sells at 4s. 6d. a yard. And leather has been made, said by practical men to be excellent ; the bark used for tanning being that of the hinau and black birch. The latter is perhaps the best bark for the purpose, the tannin being so strong in the former as to render the leather too hard. Black birch can be procured in plenty from some parts of the settlement. The hides here have an advantage in being uninjured by the disease called *warbles*, a name applied to lumps raised on cattle by a fly which perforates the hide. Tan-pits are being made in Nelson. A loom for weaving stockings is also in course of construction, to produce them at 2s. a pair. Straw is beautifully plaited here, with which bonnets and hats are made.

Next for shelter. We have Nelson plank at 5s. and scantling at 4s. 6d. per 100 feet. Good bricks from 18s. to 20s., and shingles of New Zealand wood at 5s. per 1,000. Lime delivered at £2 a ton. For warmth, firewood delivered at 8s. a cord, or coal at £1 a ton on the beach. Furniture is made cheaply. Of earthenware household utensils, we know of none made here ; but there is excellent clay for coarse pottery, and a workman who has a very good pug-mill for grinding the clay intends to manufacture some.

Of the simpler manufactures then we may hope to provide ourselves ere long with leather, stockings, coarse woollens, blankets, coarse earthenware, and coarse linens, the latter either from New Zealand flax or English flax, a species of which grows wild here. These things will perhaps be too dear, until another year or so has reduced provisions by one-third of their present cost, which will certainly be the case.

Labour at present is cheap. Agricultural, 10s. a week ; mechanical, 18s. to 21s.

To procure foreign comforts or luxuries we have the following exports. Of wool about five tons and a half have been sent this year. The unclean samples have realised in England 1s. 4½d. and 1s. 5½d. per lb. It is expected New Zealand will produce the best to be found, combining extraordinary length and excellence of staple, without degenerating, as is the tendency of Australian wools, into hairiness. Here we may

mention the rapid increase of sheep in this country, as the ewes lamb thrice in two years.

Of timber about 180,000 feet have been exported, principally to Van Diemen's Land, consisting of red and white pine, rimu, and totara. A merchant of Hobart Town has offered one of ours to take any quantity the latter can supply. As we have plenty of these kinds, this export may be considered established.

In the furniture woods most in demand at home our forests are said to be deficient. There is hinau (marble wood), however, at Massacre Bay. The prevalence of high winds is said to favour the sort of growth required, and give a twisted and distorted grain. Our trees are therefore free from it.

By the Raymond, 162 sealskins from the west coast of this island have been sent home. An old whaler of the Straits, who caught them, described the coast just mentioned as one of the best whaling grounds in New Zealand, and declared his intention of going there next winter. If so, we may export oil from Nelson. But this is as yet only to be put down as a possibility.

Such too must flax as a future export be considered. The grounds of hope of success are no doubt very good. The *Phormium tenax* was taken both in a green state (grown in Wales) and dry (imported from New Zealand). Having been mechanically cleansed and submitted to the chemical process discovered by Donlan, the brittleness, its great fault, was pronounced by experienced persons, who tested it with specimens prepared in two other modes, to be entirely removed. So prepared, the excellent fabrics of which we have seen samples were woven from it. A company has agreed to take from Messrs. Edwards (proprietors of Donlan's patent) as much similarly prepared as they can supply.* The mechanical cleansing is to be done out here, the chemical at home. Skilled workmen were engaged at 18s. a week. As this is higher than wages here, and the nature of the country and distribution of the flax on its surface, and consequent expenses of collecting it, appear to have been known to the gentlemen engaging in the scheme, there is certainly a fair chance of success. But as all the circumstances attending any enterprise can never be known until it is completed, especially when it has been planned in a country 16,000 miles from that wherein it is to be executed, it is as well for the present to consider the flax export still as only a possibility, or probability at best. There are, at a rough calculation, between three and four thousand acres of flax in the settled districts of this settlement; it is supposed to yield 2 tons per acre annually.

Our beer has been taken in small quantities already to Wellington and Auckland. This should become an important export. Owing to the temperateness of its climate, and the remarkable freedom of its atmosphere from the electric fluid (evidenced by the rarity of thunder and lightning), this country is particularly suited to the process of brewing.

So much is done or doing in the way of exports. What might and probably will be done in the course of time, we have no room to consider.

But one thing with respect to the grazing prospects of the country may be mentioned, namely, the rapidity with which fern disappears and is replaced by grass wherever cattle run. As an instance may be mentioned the whole sea faces of the hills between the town and the port (Britannia Heights), on which, in another year, there will hardly be a vestige of the fern that once almost entirely covered them. This most agreeable change has been effected by a small number of goats and pigs, with occasionally a visit of a herd of cattle and a flock of sheep just landed. It may be taken for granted that in the course of time all these fern hills, considered so unsightly and little worth, will be covered with grazing flocks and herds. English flax would thrive remarkably well here. The black birch makes good staves for oil-casks. We have fish in abundance of the same kinds as are cured at the Cape for exportation to the Mauritius, &c. It is a question whether the hills and climate might not suit the chestnut, cork, and olive trees, and perhaps several others, which form so great a part of the wealth of European countries somewhat similar to New Zealand.

To this extent we depend entirely, or soon shall, on ourselves for support. Of imports, we have already mentioned flour; tea, sugar, coffee, and spirits are got at one half, or less, of their prices in England, owing to the non-existence of prohibitory duties. Even before the abolition of Customs, the duty was only five per cent. on the first three of the above-mentioned articles. Clothing is procured from England or Sydney at moderate prices. We may insert here, as particularly connected with imports, the number and tonnage of ships which have visited Nelson since the settlement was founded, which are as follows:—

	No.	Tonnage.
From November 1, 1841, to June 30, 1842	67	11,630
„ July 1, to December 31, 1842	67	7,481
„ January 1, to June 30, 1843	62	6,041
„ July 1, to December 31, 1843	62	6,170
„ January 1, to June 30, 1844	51	6,194
„ July 1, to December 31, 1844	68	6,136
Total	377	43,652

Our readers will be pleased to see how little decrease in amount of vessels and tonnage is shown by the above account since the first year of the existence of Nelson, notwithstanding the fact, that our imports have hitherto had to be exchanged for money alone, and in spite of the Company's late stoppage. The excess of the amount for the first year over the others was caused by the great body of the settlers having arrived then. Of course they were not intended to be sent out at the same rate afterwards.

There are six public-houses in Nelson, and an hotel is being built.

But, leaving physical requirements, let us see what has been done for moral and mental. Government supplies us with a Police Office, a Court of Requests, and a Supreme Court; the business of each carried on in a wooden building in the centre of the town. Also a tiny gaol, where felons, madmen, and debtors, when there are such, are huddled together. Five constables keep order. We may mention here

the Fort, a ballproof stockade, rampart, and ditch, covering an acre ; a powder magazine on the Boulder Bank ; and the Company's Barracks, excellently adapted for soldiers, round three sides of a square, with offices detached, built at an expense of £800.

Two clergymen of the Church of England, one Wesleyan, and one German Lutheran minister, teach religion. A temporary church at Nelson inside the Fort accommodates about 180 people. A pretty church at Waimea West, of wood, with chancel and tower, holds about 120. The Wesleyans have a neat brick chapel in the town. There are two parsonage houses, one of which was built for a Maori school.

We have five schools :—A Church school, under the superintendence of the deacon, attended by about 60 boys and girls, work-days and Sundays. No charge is made. One wing of the building is completed ; the whole to be 100 feet by 20, with gable-fronting centre projecting 6 feet, of moulded bricks, in the Elizabethan style of architecture. It is a great ornament to the little town, and, we hear, is immediately to be proceeded with. In Waimea West a Sunday school is carried on in the church, attended by 18 or 20 ; and in Waimea South is another Church school, to which 15 or 20 come daily, and 30 on Sundays. On the principles of the British and Foreign Society, a school has been founded in Nelson by Mr. Campbell, whose zeal and public spirit in the cause of education entitle him to the thanks of the whole community. A substantial building of brick has been erected for it, attended by about 60 children daily and about 180 on Sundays, with accommodation for more. They pay 2d. or 3d. a week. At Rewaka is a day school on the same principle, to which we believe 30 or 40 children go. Others are being planned. The Wesleyans have a school in their chapel in Nelson ; 18 boys and girls attend daily, and 24 on Sundays, 7 of whom are included in the previous 18. The total is as follows: Day schools—boys 95, girls 79, total 174 ; Sunday schools—boys 180, girls 184, total 364 ; subtracting the number attending both, the total receiving education is 421. There is a private school also kept by a lady.

We have a literary institution, with a library of 600 volumes, chiefly on history and useful knowledge, supported by fifty subscribers at a guinea a year, and supplied with the leading English periodicals and papers ; an agricultural and horticultural society, with fifty members at the same sum, and a printing press and newspaper, of somewhat too limited circulation.

A branch of the Union Bank of Australia is established here. The notes in circulation amount to £7,000.

We have not the criminal statistics of the settlement before us, but we may express our decided conviction that our community is as orderly and moral a one as is to be found in any town of the same size in England.

Perhaps some notice should be given of the settlement of Nelson in its social relations. We fear it would require too much space to do so properly ; but as to one part of the subject, which is in general too exclusively made to stand for the meaning of the word "society," namely, social relaxation or amusement, we may perhaps remark, without flattering ourselves too much, that there exists in our settlement consider-

able harmony and conviviality, little formality, and no pretension. Expensive luxuries of any kind are, and have ever been, since the foundation of the settlement, very rarely indulged in. People dine together constantly, but seldom or never have "dinner parties;" "drop in" anywhere in the evening, but give no *soirées* or balls. Though beginning of late to decline, bachelorship rather prevails in the settlement—a melancholy fact, which partly accounts for this absence of formality.

On the whole, as the world goes, we may perhaps dub ourselves a contented, social, and peaceful little community. Government is of course to be excepted; with *it* almost everybody in the place has long been disgusted. But, as the "wisest Shakspeare" says, "there is a soul of goodness in things evil;" so perhaps Government has been of use to us in one respect—having acted towards us the part of a common enemy, it has given us something of a common cause, which otherwise we might have been without; and this common cause has probably tended to produce something of unity and individuality in a body composed of such previously heterogeneous materials. This latter defect in the composition of a society is of great importance; and though time must cure it in any community, it is doubtless at first a great drawback. Public spirit can hardly exist without a common bond of union, of sympathy, on some one great point. Much might be said on this subject, but this is not the place. We may just remark, by the way, that the notion of a Scotch settlement, or a Church of England one, is in this point of view admirable, and will probably convert their old prejudices into sources of noble and necessary unanimity—into vigorous principles of cohesion. Might not all party and clannish feelings and prejudices, irreconcilable and detrimental at home, be thus turned to the greatest benefits in peopling the Colonies of England?

Well, has the transplanted shrub taken root? Is it living or dead? We have shown you its young shoots, small but healthy, to grow one day into stout, full-foliated branches, and give shelter to a numerous and thriving population. True, it grows somewhat slowly, compared with the forced hotbed Australian plants; and possibly with a shower or two (of the Danae kind, we mean—of gold) might come on faster and be none the weaker. But, if slowly, we are sure it is going on steadily. There is no fear for it.

We have some particular advantages we have not yet alluded to. We believe all New Zealand is healthy, but our climate is possibly altogether the finest and most agreeable. We have rain enough for agriculture, and sunshine enough for enjoyment. As far as our experience goes, the winter weather is as delicious as any conceivable—day after day, almost week after week, with perfect calm, warm sun, and literally cloudless sky. The disagreeables are the coldness of night after the warmth of day, and the occasional violence of the sea-breeze in the more unsheltered parts of the settlement. We have heard Mr. Tytler, the last to be a hard master, declare that for a whole year his men were prevented from working by bad weather only twenty-three days.

As far as bills of mortality are evidence of healthiness or otherwise of climate, they are greatly in favour of ours. The proportion of deaths

last year was 1 in 116; or, deducting accidental ones, 1 in 159. In England it is 1 in 44; in France, 1 in 40.

Another great advantage is the smallness of the number of natives about the settlement. In Blind Bay and Massacre Bay the native population is given in the Government returns at 288 males, and 216 females; total, 504. It is to be remembered, that these are scattered over a coast of 150 miles. On the Waimea Plain and in Nelson there are none, nor in the Wairau Valley.

The only serious drawback we know of, is the want of a Government; for the thing assuming the name cannot be mistaken for one. To say nothing of its blunders and mismanagement in other respects, its open avowal of its inability to afford security in life and property to its subjects is a virtual resignation. But were its faults only negative ones, were its sins only those of omission, how happy were it for us! The Governor's ill usage of our first and best magistrates, forcing them to resign—the measures passed positively to injure us, and the constant encouragement given in word and deed to the natives generally, in their opposition to and outrages upon the settlers—these things had prepared us for his otherwise incredible design of breaking up and removing the settlement we have been briefly describing. All that was left of the results of the labour and enterprise of the settlers—all, that is, that had succeeded and was prosperous—was to be overturned; all that could not be carried away, to be sacrificed; and with the wrecks they were to begin again and encounter all the original difficulties in a new location, in new and untried circumstances. Think of the madness of this project! The reduced, but healthy and now firmly-rooted plant (to return to our old metaphor) was to be torn up again, and transplanted to a less favourable soil and climate, with the absolute certainty of losing in withered leaves and branches by the second operation, if it survived it at all, as much as it had lost by the first! For you *cannot* transplant without sacrifices. This absurd attempt will not be made, perhaps never was likely to have been; but the avowal of the intention, like so many other evidences of the animosity of Government towards us, has not a little contributed to discourage and depress the settlers. But let the Home Government do its duty—recall this, our destroying Protector, our most hostile Guardian and anarchical Ruler,* and adopt the policy and principles recommended in the profound, lucid, and unanswerable Report of the Committee of the House of Commons on the affairs of New Zealand, and we shall be able to find in the settlement, or the country, nothing to give us a moment's discouragement. Meanwhile let the inhabitants of Nelson take comfort in the promising condition of their adopted home, in spite of all the Government's endeavours to injure it. And let them remember that the first and last and cherished resolve of a settler in a new country ought to be, at all times and in every situation,

“ ——— to bate no jot
Of heart or hope, but still BEAR UP AND STEER
RIGHT ONWARD!”

This was written before the recall of Governor Fitz Roy.

THE PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT.

THIS District, situated on the northern branch of Lake Ontario, between Kingston and Toronto, is an interesting part of Canada. Bounded on the south by the Lake, and on the north by the Bay of Quinte, though occupying a central position in the Province, it is almost an island. The Peninsula which it is composed of is joined to the rest of Canada by a neck of land not exceeding two or three miles in width. This junction, by which it is connected with the Newcastle District, is at its western extremity. The District is from thirty to forty miles in length, and at the widest part, near the middle, from twenty to thirty in width, of very irregular form, being in many places deeply indented by the Bay and Lake, and includes a number of small islands also within its boundaries. To the north of it, across the Bay, lies the Victoria District, having Belleville for its chief town; to the east, the Midland District, including Kingston, the ex-capital of United Canada. The Bay of Quinte, which bounds this district to the north, and gives it a peculiar shape, is, in our opinion, one of the greatest natural curiosities of Canada. The Bay of Quinte, at its western extremity, which is called its head, and is separated from Lake Ontario by the neck of land spoken of above, and there called the Carrying Place, receives, from the north-west, a large river called the Trent. It then glides smoothly on to the east, about thirty miles, like an immense canal of nature's own construction, gradually diverging, until it is twenty miles or more from Lake Ontario. In its course, ten or twelve miles from its head, the Bay receives from the north another river, called the Moira, from the interior of the Victoria District, with Belleville at its mouth. Eight or ten miles farther east, the Salmon River, of considerable size, having its rise in the northern part of the Midland District, empties itself into the Bay. Having received three of the largest rivers of Canada West, and stretched itself about thirty miles between the Prince Edward and Victoria Districts, it turns abruptly to the south, and becoming narrower and deeper, proceeds rather west of south, twelve miles or more towards Lake Ontario. This part of the Bay, after it turns from its narrowness, straightness, and depth, is called the Long Reach. At the turn, an arm called the Mohawk Bay, seven or eight miles in length, is extended still farther to the east, in which another considerable river, the Napanee, empties itself. Having approached within ten or twelve miles of the Lake, the Bay again suddenly turns eastward, having previously thrown out another arm in the same direction as the first, called the Hay Bay, into which the water of several creeks is received. Having thus found its way forty miles or more through the interior, and received the waters of two or three districts, the Bay of Quinte, navigable throughout, proceeds eastward, fifteen or sixteen miles further, drawing nearer and nearer to the Lake, until they come together, be-

tween the eastern extremity of the Prince Edward District, called Point Pleasant, and the Isle of Tanti, or Amherst Isle. That junction of the Bay and Lake is called the Upper Gap, to distinguish it from another of the same bay with the lake, near Kingston, at the east end of Amherst Isle, called the Lower Gap.

The Prince Edward District, thus naturally separated from the rest of the Province, formerly made a part of the Midland District, and consisted originally of three townships, Marysburgh, Sophiasburgh, and Ameliasburgh, known among the older inhabitants, and sometimes yet called, from the order in which they were originally surveyed, the fifth, sixth, and seventh towns. From these, three new townships have been set off, viz. : Hallowell, Hillier, and Athol, so that now there are six in the District.

The principal islands in connexion with the District, are the Ducks, Wappoose Island, and Big Island. The Ducks lie in Lake Ontario, south of the eastern part of the District, opposite the Upper Gap, the nearest of them being ten or twelve miles distant from it. From the south side of the District, a projection of land ten or twelve miles in length, and from one to three in width, puts out in an easterly direction, towards the Ducks, called Long Point. Wappoose Island lies between this point and the main land of the District, in Prince Edward's Bay ; whilst Hog Island lies in the Bay of Quinte, on the north side of the District towards Belleville, and is joined to the main land by a floating bridge of more than half a mile in length.

There are in the District a number of small lakes, among which we might name the West Lake, the East Lake, the Consecon Lake, and the Lake of the Mountain. East and West Lakes lie on the south-west part of the District, and seem once to have been bays jutting out from Lake Ontario, across which banks of sand have been deposited or washed up from the Lake, so that they have now become distinct bodies of water. Consecon Lake lies in the western part of the District, is of smaller size, and receives and discharges the largest stream in the District. This stream is called Consecon Creek, has its rise in the north-eastern part of the District, and empties into Weller's Bay, at the western extremity, and through into Lake Ontario.

The substratum or foundation of this District is a limestone rock, which, in most places where it approaches the surface, is of a shelly friable nature. This limestone rock is elevated in the northern and eastern parts of the District, but depressed in the southern part. The limestone elevation may be traced throughout the whole northern and eastern border of the District, generally breaking off very abruptly ; sometimes presenting to the bay a shore nearly two hundred feet in height, and almost perpendicular. In other places it recedes from the bay, with sloping banks intervening, or appears depressed or intercepted in its course. This rock in the northern parts of the District, after continuing near the surface for a greater or less distance, disappears, being gradually depressed, and covered with soil, toward the south ; but the two points of which the eastern part of the District, viz. Marysburgh, is composed, are for the most part made up of this rocky

elevation, whilst at the southern part of the District it may be seen sloping downward, and forming a bed for Ontario's waves. In most places where this rock approaches the surface, it is covered with a shallow coat of soil, of a dark colour, mingled with limestone more or less communicated, called here the gravelly soil. I should think about one-third, if not more, of the District was of this description of soil. The other parts of the District are mostly made up of sandy or clayey soils. The sandy soil prevails most about the centre of the District, and toward the south-west. The clayey portions may be found between the rocky parts and the sandy. The islands are mostly of this kind of soil. It generally appears in this District mixed with vegetable deposit and other substances, and constitutes the best land of the District. The whole District, however, may be said to be fertile; for, except there be great drought, the gravelly soil itself affords good crops of the lighter kinds of grain.

The only town of any size in the District is Picton, its capital, occupying a central position upon an arm of the Bay of Quinte, about forty miles west of Kingston. The principal roads of the District converge at Picton, and form its streets. One, coming from the west, forms the main street of the town, which is studded on either side, for half a mile or more, with houses of brick or wood. This street, together with a cluster of buildings, about the end of Hallowell Bay, as the arm leading to Picton is called, and about the conjunction at this place of the other leading roads, makes up the town of Picton. In it may be seen a neat court-house and gaol, four respectable places of worship, six or eight merchants' shops, with mechanics' shops, dwellings, and taverns interspersed. Its population numbers between one and two thousand. There is no prospect that Picton or any other town in this District will become very large, on account of its limited extent and insulated position.

There are several villages in the District, viz. Demorestville and Northport, to the north of Picton; Wellington and Consecon, to the west; besides some smaller places, as Milford, south of Picton, and Bloomfield, west, half-way to Wellington.

This District constitutes also the County of Prince Edward, of which John P. Roblin, a tried friend of the people, has long been the representative in Parliament. The District contains about 213,300 acres of land, of which about 91,139 are cultivated. The population of the District amounts to about 16,000; the amount of taxes paid annually, to about £1,793.

According to the last year's report (1844) of the Superintendent of Education, he found in the District 3,943 children over five years old and under fifteen, of whom 62 were studying geography, 87 grammar, 138 arithmetic, 470 writing, 838 reading, besides those that were learning to spell. The average attendance of children throughout the District he found to be 1405, a little over one-third of the whole number. The productions of this District are wheat, rye, Indian corn, potatoes, peas, oats, barley, buckwheat, &c., with a variety of fruits.

Among the resources of this District, the white fishery should not be forgotten. At the south-west side of the District, upon the banks of Lake Ontario, immense numbers of white fish are taken every fall. At certain favourable times a thousand have been taken at a draught.

There are no Provincial works in this District, as far as I know, with the exception of two lighthouses; the one on the False Duck, at the end of Long Point,—the other at Point Petre, at the southern extremity of the District.

This District was early settled. The first settlers in it were U. E. Loyalists, and other emigrants from the United States. Of these, and their descendants, with a sprinkling of emigrants from Great Britain and Ireland, the population at present consists.

The roads of this District are generally of a superior kind. In some places, upon those limestone elevations, there are roads for miles that are nearly equal to a Macadamised road.

This District affords some delightful scenery, and some natural curiosities. The Lake of the Mountain is notorious for its novelty. In the rocky elevation of which we have spoken, four or five miles east of Picton, close to the Bay, but, I should think, two hundred feet above it, is a lake called the Lake of the Mountain. It is small, but beautiful; the water clear, its banks well defined, and about the southern part of it lined with trees of evergreen. A road passes along the northern bank. Often have I stopped and gazed as I monthly passed that way. But it is not the lake alone that captivates; it is the scenery to the north contrasted with it. After you have gazed awhile upon the lake and its shores, until you have forgotten your elevated position, you turn to the north, and, at first, you are startled at the precipice behind you. After you become composed, you behold the Bay of Quinte, with its waters clear as crystal, two hundred feet below, eastward losing itself between its lofty southern and more level northern banks—westward soon stopped by a bank as high as that on which you stand, and turned to the north, in which direction, after throwing out eastward its majestic arms, as if to gather strength, it onward glides till lost in the distance, amidst its banks, which are lined with farmers' seats and groves. You raise your eyes to get relief, having tried in vain to trace its windings—a boundless forest is spread before you, skirting the horizon, northward, eastward, and westward, which you cannot, with the utmost effort, scan at one view. Higher still, you have the blue expanse—immense, unfathomable. You stand amazed—you almost involuntarily cry out, "Who made you thus?" The poet answers—

"Part of His name divinely stands
On all His creatures writ;
They show the labour of His hands,
Or impress of His feet."

Methinks none but those destitute of eyes or souls could pass that spot unmoved. Yet this is but one of the many delightful prospects which the rocky elevations of this District afford.

In a description of this District, there is another place that deserves

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notice, called in these parts the Sandbanks. West Lake, which no doubt once formed a part of Lake Ontario, is now separated from it by an accumulation of sand, about six miles in length, and in some places nearly a mile in width. This ridge of sand, having a lake on either side, is in some places thrown up in heaps, resembling vast drifts of snow. Some of these seemed to me more than a hundred feet in height, and almost as white as the driven snow, and so clear of all vegetable matter as not to soil the cleanest apparel. In places, from some of the inferior banks, the tops of trees may be seen projecting. From a few of the loftier eminences a commanding prospect is afforded; northward of West Lake, skirted with well-cultivated farms, and farm-houses, with a number of small islands in its midst, with Wellington to the left, and East Lake to the right; whilst south of you lies Ontario, bearing upon her vast and glassy bosom the passing ship and the distant majestic cloud.

Most of the inhabitants of this District appear to be in easy circumstances, and some of them really affluent. Religious influence here is, for the most part, divided between five denominations—the Methodists, the Presbyterians, the Friends, the Church of England, and the Catholics.

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ELIHU.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE LIBERATED AFRICAN ESTABLISHMENT AT ST. HELENA.

BY GEORGE M^rHENRY, M.D., C.M.G.

MEMBER OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF PARIS, LATE SURGEON TO THE
LIBERATED AFRICAN ESTABLISHMENT AT ST. HELENA.

CHAPTER VII.

Visitors at Lemon Valley. Bonaparte's House and Tomb. My first Trip up Lemon Valley. Appointment of Robert Scale as an Overseer. Chamberlain's Cottage converted into an Hospital. Formation of my Garden. The Liberated Africans taught the sublime Science of Engineering. The Sick at Rupert's sent to Lemon Valley. Foraging Expeditions of the Africans. Apprenticeship of the Liberated Africans. The Catapora, a Varioloid Disease, breaks out among the Inmates of the Establishment.

THE quarantine having ceased, Lemon Valley became the theatre of continual visits. On the 23d May we were honoured by the presence of the Colonial Secretary, the Collector of Customs, the Commanding Officer of the Engineers, and many more persons of distinction in the island. The Africans were mustered and examined by their visitors, who were pleased to express their satisfaction at their appearance. At

that time there existed very little subject for censure, or even criticism, in the management of the business of the Station. Having been subjected to a regular discipline under my own direction, without the interference of others, who, subsequently to this date, claimed and exercised an officious and often mischievous control over the affairs of the Establishment, the Africans were cleanly in their persons and clothing, civil and obedient to the overseers and matrons, diligent in the performance of the daily routine of service, regular in the preparation of their meals, and orderly at their repasts. Indeed, so great was the curiosity excited about the inmates of the Establishment, that not only parties from the island, but likewise from the shipping in the harbour, composed frequently of numbers of the fair sex, would propose a visit to Lemon Valley, as one of the greatest sources of novelty and pleasure. The sights, which could not fail occasionally to meet the view of the fair dames, as improved as the Africans were, were not altogether adapted for the delicate vision of ladies who had seldom quitted the precincts of their *boudoirs* and *salons*: but ladies, when they become travellers, are obliged to lay aside their fastidiousness; and as for the native belles of St. Helena, I suspect they hold notions of refinement not quite consistent with the generally-received ideas here. Imagine the delight depicted on the ugly, black, grinning faces of the negroes at the opportunity thus afforded them of beholding, perhaps for the first time, the white skin, rosy complexion, fair hair, light eyes, lovely countenances, and elegant forms of their European female visitors! I cannot venture to say if, on the part of these, the pleasure was reciprocal. If they met with little to praise or flatter, they saw plenty to amuse and divert themselves with.

I question if Lemon Valley was not a greater "lion" at that time than the house and tomb of the Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte. Since the remains of that extraordinary man were taken away from St. Helena, there appears to exist very little interest about his tenantless grave; and the house which he inhabited during his exile is become no longer an object of concern. The tomb remains as it was left by the French. It is open, the head-stone having been lifted away and placed aside, so as to expose to view the cavity, which is protected from rain by the erection of a mean-looking canvass tent over it. Its depth is about a dozen feet, and its bottom and sides are formed of cut stones. Near the spot lives the guardian, a withered old woman, who will induct you into an acquaintance with the locality. With a little stretch of the imagination, one might fancy her the genius of the place, mourning over the violated sanctuary of the dead; as, indeed, she has reason to do, for many a pound she has lost by Prince Joinville's expedition thither. Close to the tomb is the little romantic spring, where the illustrious exile used to repair to taste its pure crystal. A draught is given to each visitor; and if there be any of my readers who have experienced in any remarkable degree the reverses of fortune, I would advise them to visit St. Helena, and drink of the waters of Napoleon's Fountain. The moral would cure them, if the waters should fail. The willow trees which shaded, as it were, with the wings of peace the

hero's grave, where he should have lain for ever (a whole isle being his fittest monument, and the surrounding ocean his most appropriate panoply !), have been cut down, and every morsel of their trunks, branches, and boughs, converted into boxes, toys, and ornaments, mementoes of friendship or pledges of love. Such has been the destiny of Bonaparte's tomb in the Island of St. Helena. With respect to the house which he occupied there, it is long since it was converted into a barn. No idea could be formed that it had been his dwelling, were it not for the thousands of names and numerous scraps of poetry, in all languages, inscribed on every part of the walls. It was, at the best, but a humble building—something like an ordinary farmhouse. It is now fast mouldering into decay, and probably in the course of twenty years will exist no more; so that the time may not be far distant when the place of the Emperor's residence, like the country of Homer, will become a subject for controversy among learned antiquaries. Fifteen years ago, Longwood and Springvale were the Medina and Mecca of Europeans; and people of all nations came from the uttermost parts of the earth to visit the prison and sepulchre of their idol, which were as much respected and hallowed by Christians, as the birthplace and shrine of their Prophet are by Mahometans. Springvale and Longwood are now deserted, while Mecca and Medina are as crowded as ever—because the warrior's fame is declining, while the priest's reputation stands undiminished in lustre. And why is this? Simply because the ambitious Corsican was only a soldier and a politician, and, at the highest pinnacle of his power, but the founder of an empire; while the crafty Arab was the creator and propagator of a religion. The one exercised unbounded sway over his subjects during the epoch of his greatness, and lost his influence at his downfall; for his power, being derived from physical force, when that force was annihilated, necessarily diminished, if it did not cease: the other held as sovereign a dominion over his votaries during the vicissitudes of an adventurous life, and acquired respect and veneration after his death, because the means he employed to arrive at celebrity were addressed to the passions and faculties, and cease not to operate continually on the mind. The one erected his throne on transient matter, and therefore fell, because its foundation was fragile and perishable; but the other built his church on a rock—on the frailties of human nature, if you like, but still on the mind—and therefore stood secure amidst the storms of contending nations, and the wreck of kingdoms. The one earned fame, but lost immortality; the other gained immortality, and has kept it. The most extended and permanent glory is derived, then, not from feats of arms and murderous victories, but from the preaching of dogmas of belief, and the promulgation of articles of faith. The influence and glory of a Moses, Brahma, Zoroaster, and Mahomet, have infinitely transcended and eclipsed the renown that surrounds the names of Cyrus, Alexander, Cæsar, or Bonaparte.

I have mentioned how very pleasing the liberation from the thralldom of quarantine was to all the inmates of the Station. To me it was peculiarly gratifying. I hailed the liberty that was now accorded me to leave

my prison, with about the same feelings that the sailor experiences when, after being long pent up on board-a-ship, seeing nothing but sea and sky, he at last discovers land. I, like him, had been confined for months, with nought of nature presented to my view but the same ocean, and a narrow ravine between stupendous hills. The luxury of beholding verdure was all but denied me hitherto, for in the limits of the Station, the only trees, shrubs, and herbage were a few bananas, three or four fig trees, and a solitary rose-apple tree (the finest of its sort, however, in St. Helena), bushes of samphire and asclepias, and tufts of ether and cow-grass. Let me here mention that the rose-apple tree is one of the most beautiful productions of the tropics. It is large and very branching; its stem is smooth—its leaves, long, shining, and aromatic; its flowers, composed of minute petals, and an immense assemblage of long snowy stamens, are striking, handsome, and odorous, forming white globes on every part of the tree; and its fruit, delicately red on one side, and waxy yellow on the other, is about the size of a small apple, and, besides its beauty, offers to the palate a grateful taste, and to the smell the aroma of roses. It is a native of India, and was brought from thence to St. Helena, where it flourishes well. It is dear to Oriental poets and historians: the first derive many of their metaphors to illustrate female charms from its characters; and the second consider it to be the forbidden fruit, with which the serpent tempted Eve in the Garden of Eden. It is, I believe, the *Eugenia paradisiaca* of botanists.

After the Collector of Customs and the other officials of Colonial Government had returned to town from their visit to the Station, my first race was up the Valley, to examine every crick and corner of it, and luxuriate my eyes with every trifling spectacle that it afforded, its rocks, caves, stream, and vegetation. I felt like a wild bird that has broken its cage, and hastens to return to its native grove in the woods.

Just beyond the limits of the Station, marked by the streaks of white paint, as I have mentioned, the Valley takes a turn to the right for about 200 yards, and this space, with the breadth of about 100, is occupied by a luxuriant meadow, watered by the stream that flows onwards to the ocean. Beyond the meadow is a rough broken piece of ground, covered with stones, on one side bounded by immense cliffs, and the other by the rising ground that leads up to Mr. Chamberlain's cottage, now vacated by the guard of soldiers who had made it their post during the existence of quarantine. This wild spot was the burial-place of many a brave sailor during the captivity of Bonaparte at St. Helena. Lemon Valley having been appointed the naval depot for the ships of war, which used continually to be cruising about the island, a temporary wooden building was erected on shore, and used for an hospital, for dysentery was then very prevalent among the crews. Many a stout-hearted seaman, who had, perhaps, escaped the dangers of Copenhagen and Trafalgar, fell by the hand of sickness here, and was interred in this dreary, desolate field. On the cliffs, overhanging by a thousand feet their unsculptured tombs, several families of cormorants, of that description called white birds, had made their nests, and might be seen at all times, either roosting on the rocks, or fluttering

like phantoms above the graves. These birds are of an elegant shape, and are spotless white; and as they fly at times quite near to man, as if they were fond of him, it is no wonder that the natives of the island should regard them with attachment, and invest them with supernatural properties. According to their notions, they are the spirits of drowned sailors. In the present locality it would have been more apposite to have considered them as the ghosts of the seamen buried below, hovering about their tombs. Many other fantastical ideas have been propagated about them, such as great misfortune being sure to overtake the sportsman who would be so wilful as to shoot them. A fisherman related to me, that while employed at his avocation, he had the misfortune once to knock one down with the boat-hook and kill it; he never caught a fish afterwards during the course of that day, and was nearly lost, owing to a violent storm that arose and blew them out to sea. It was with the most desperate struggle that they rowed to land, and he vowed that he would never molest one for the future. This will give an idea of the firm persuasion of the natives in the truth of this popular superstition. Beyond the sailors' cemetery, which afterwards became likewise a burial-place for some hundred Africans, a fine open level space, containing about three acres, presented itself. Shut up by abrupt cliffs, in a gap in which came tumbling down a picturesque waterfall, lay this field, inviting, as it were, cultivation, and offering a romantic site, such as is seldom found anywhere, for the dwelling of some recluse. A little wooden house had just been built at the foot of the cascade, for the accommodation of the party of soldiers at Chamberlain's cottage, which they would have left, to reside in the wooden house, had the quarantine continued. The soldiers had constructed a flight of stone steps, alongside of the waterfall, by which means they got access into the neighbouring valley, and thus saved themselves a long circuit in their communications with town. The house they never inhabited, and I was destined to be its first tenant, for I removed thither in about a month afterwards. In the field I met with several plants, either beautiful or curious, to engage my notice. There were two splendid specimens of the nopal, the same plant that is cultivated so extensively in Mexico for the purpose of rearing the cochineal insect on; the present were of the white variety, and produced fruit resembling large gooseberries, and something like them in flavour, except they are destitute of acidity. At the foot of the cliffs was a regular plantation of the nyctalago, or the night-flower; they are called four-o'-clocks in St. Helena, because they expand their corollas about that hour in the afternoon. Here there was every kind of them, pink, yellow, white, and variegated. Here I also fell in with bushes of the St. Helena bilberry, whose fruit is an excellent substitute for the garden berries of Europe. Patches of arum, celery, wild mint, and cresses would clothe the banks of the stream; while antirrhina would climb up the rocks, nasturtiums cling around the stones, and fumitory and bitter-sweet grow under the shelter of projecting ledges. I saw goats cropping the leaves of the bitter thorn-apple with avidity, which, considering its virulence as a poison to man, is rather astonishing. However, such is

the case, and they seem to consume it with impunity. There were lots of field-mice among the mat-grass, so numerous were they that it was not unusual to tread them to death. On the castor-oil trees the avertavats were twittering, the partridges calling from the hills, and the doves cooing from the cliffs. I also found the wild tobacco here, bearing an elegant tubulated flower, with an exquisite odour: we often attempted to dry and sweat its leaves, and manufacture them into cigars and cannister, but could never succeed; the negroes, however, would roast them over a slow fire, and make excellent snuff from them, exactly resembling Lundyfoot's. As I wound up the Valley, the caverns, the resort of the wild cats, and the holes which the rabbits had burrowed—the beds of rushes wherever a spring existed—the tufts of aloes, with their long stalks of flowers—the plots of Indian shot, a liliaceous plant, with bright scarlet flowers—a solitary pomegranate or peach tree, together with the bubbling, or bounding, or rushing of the waters, as the stream would be obstructed in its course by stones, or leap from jutting rocks, or run uninterrupted by impediments, and the glorious amphitheatre of the hills and precipices, formed the different parts of the wild and picturesque scenery that everywhere met my view.

Some misunderstanding having occurred among the officials at Rupert's Station, the storehouse-keeper there was dismissed, and Mr. Augustus Kennedy, who had succeeded Lieutenant Matthew O'Connor in that capacity at Lemon Valley, was transferred thither, his place being filled up by his father, who had been a captain in the old St. Helena Corps of Artillery. Many dismissals took place likewise at our Station. The two O'Connors, young Brown, Conolly, and Mrs. Weller were removed; and the salaries of those who were retained were considerably reduced. Even Mallet, who had taken charge of the "Minerva," and who, after he got strong, had rendered himself useful, was ordered to be struck off the list of overseers, in order to make room for a Mr. Robert Seale. The following is an extract from a letter I received on the occasion:—

"As Mallet is a high-priced overseer, the Collector requests you will notify to him and all the others, that they will be discharged from and after to-morrow. Mr. Young will send to Lemon Valley, as an assistant to Mr. Kennedy, a young gentleman, the son of the late Colonial Secretary, and nephew of the present, and desires he may be placed on the Establishment as a second-class overseer, at 3s. *per diem*."

In this transaction, it will easily be perceived that Mr. Robert Seale was put upon the Establishment on account of his family connexions. The Collector of Customs had not the art to conceal this fact, for he makes pointed allusion to it. In serving, however, his friends, he ought not to have neglected the interests of the Establishment over which he was commissioned to preside; and his friends might have had a little more regard for him than to have taken advantage so far of his kindness as to have made a regular catspaw of him. There was something unjust, too, in the measure of superseding an old servant in order to make room for a stranger; for Mallet was ordered to be discharged,

without being asked if he would accept a smaller salary. A pretext also was invented, as if Captain Kennedy required assistance in his duties of clerk and chief overseer, and Mr. Seale was sent especially for the purpose of affording him that assistance. Captain Kennedy required no aid, and never asked for any; and if he had, the Collector must have been conscious that Mr. Seale was utterly incapable of being of any use to him, for he was deformed and paralytic. Overseers notorious for their incapacity and drunkenness, and blood-selling Portuguese who had been taken engaged in the Slave-trade, had been ridiculously and shamefully put on the Establishment; but the appointment of Mr. Robert Seale was the crowning farce of the whole, and showed how much the Establishment could be trifled with. Of course, instead of inspiring respect, Seale only served to excite the mirth and ridicule of the Africans, who would mimic his actions, imitate his gait, speech and manners, and make sport of his deformities. When the poor lad was removed to Rupert's Station, he fared still worse from their pranks; for, not content with mocking his eccentricities, they would put prickly pears, old bones, and all sorts of things into his bed, and annoy him by many other mischievous contrivances. Far be it from me to be the cause of inflicting pain on the unfortunate—they are objects of commiseration: I will refrain therefore from describing his infirmities, although the picture would be the keenest satire on the Establishment, and the severest censure on its conductors. I cannot, however, avoid mentioning that in the opinion of the world it would have been more honourable for his uncle, who received £900 a-year from Government, to have granted the paltry pittance of his nephew's salary out of his own enormous income, than have burthened the Establishment with his maintenance, physically and mentally incapable as he was of rendering the least service in recompense; and it would have been kinder to the lad to have allowed him to remain in the privacy to which he had been accustomed, than to have exposed his misfortunes to public view.

About two months after Robert Seale had been sent to Lemon Valley, I received a visit from Lieutenant Middlemore, son to the Governor of the Island, and Lieutenant Wilcox, of the *Waterwitch*—the same who had been my companion for three weeks at the beginning of the quarantine. On conducting them up the Valley to point out everything worth noticing relating to the Establishment, we met Seale; and Lieutenant Middlemore was so struck with his appearance, that he inquired what he was doing there. On my informing him that the cripple was an overseer, he was uncommonly indignant, and repeated he would inform his father of the circumstance. The day after, I received a letter from the Governor, ordering me to dismiss Seale immediately. This occurred on the 24th July, 1841. It is a fact, however, that on the 22d April following, when Major-general Middlemore had left St. Helena, and shortly after the arrival of the present Governor, Colonel Trelawney, R.A., the same Seale was again placed on the Establishment—this time, it was thought, through the influence his relative the Colonial Secretary possessed over the new Governor.

A great number of tents were erected for the accommodation of the people who had been located on board of the "Louiza," "Marcianna," and "Minerva," those vessels having been sent up to town to be sold and broken up. The appearance of the Valley became quite changed, and a visitor might now have imagined it an encampment of Arabs in the desert. On the flat bit of ground just above Mrs. Renton's garden, three tents were constructed, and two in the yard of the fisherman's hut, which I had hitherto occupied, but which I was obliged now to leave, fearing a too close contiguity; and I henceforth took up my residence in the little wooden house further up the Valley. Chamberlain's cottage was converted into an hospital; the two rooms of which it was composed, with the outhouses, were quickly tenanted; for we had still plenty of sickness, although nothing of an infectious nature. Along the hill-side on which Chamberlain's cottage stood, a dozen of banyan or Indian fig-trees had been planted many years ago. They had now grown to a large size, their immense spreading branches being only equalled by the dimensions and length of their roots, that would twine round stones, shoot into the earth, rise up again, grasping in their embrace some huge rock, and then run upon the ground, exposed to view, for many perches. The tree which was nearest to the hospital was the largest of them all, but it was blasted—not a green leaf was on its boughs, and it stood there, with its naked arms, a picture of desolation and a ghastly emblem of death, not an inappropriate sign-post to indicate the character of the contiguous building. When the Java sparrows would every evening seek the shelter of the banyans, to feed on the figs and chaunt their vesper song ere they roosted for the night, they would carefully avoid, so it was said, the blasted tree, even some years before it became withered. The popular tradition relates that a female slave was once tied up to it, and nearly flogged to death by her mistress; and that immediately afterwards it began to decay, and was so cursed by this act of female cruelty, that not a bird would henceforth perch on its boughs. A small shed was knocked up for a laboratory, where the medicines for the use of the hospital were kept; and behind the premises a kitchen was built, with a capital boiler, large enough to cook provisions for three hundred persons, and all other requisite culinary apparatus; while before the door, where pumpkins, calavanchas, and yams used to be cultivated, three additional tents were got up, to afford increased accommodation to the sick.

As much to occupy the Africans as to embellish the grounds around my new dwelling, I employed a party of men every day, for about a month, in repairing the old wall, which had in former times been constructed close to the house, enclosing a field of about an acre and a half, and in digging and planting the enclosed area. This space I converted into a garden, which, in the course of fifteen months, eclipsed every spot in St. Helena for its fertility, and the variety of its productions. I opened trenches to admit the water from the stream higher up the Valley, and conveyed it through every portion of the garden above the house; the space below was irrigated by conducting the

water from the cascade into different channels, traversing the grounds in all directions. I had an alley of bananas through the whole extent of the place. Their large, wide leaves meeting at the top, afforded shade, and, stirred by every breath of wind, rustled and flapped in obedience to the breeze; on their flowers bees would be continually clustering, and their fruit was both fragrant and delicious. I planted two hundred and fifty Muscadel vines, that bore grapes not inferior to the productions of any vineyards in Spain. . Peach, fig, pomegranate, chirimoya, and loquat trees I also introduced into the premises; some of them bore their first-fruits before I left the island, and all have thriven well since, as I have been informed. Of beans, lettuce, cucumbers, tomatos, chillies, and other vegetables, I raised an abundance for myself, and plenty to spare to the negroes. There were at Chamberlain's cottage six large lemon trees, that had become nearly withered from neglect. As it was necessary to remove them in order to make room for the tents which were erected there, I transplanted them, having first reduced them to one-half their size, to my garden, and had the satisfaction, the ensuing season, to see my labour rewarded, for they were covered with verdure. I did not forget to ornament this now delightful retreat with flowering shrubs; wherever these would grow, they were introduced. In a short time the moon plants grew up, and formed a little bower, surrounding my house with their glossy leaves and pure white pendent corollas. The Indian lilacs presented everywhere their long clusters of purple flowers, exhaling, with the moon plants, a most grateful odour. In the serene moonlight nights, the perfume from the last-mentioned plants, as their name implies, would be the most exquisite, and, mingled then with the aroma from the nyctalagos and beds of mignonette, formed a combination of sweets worthy of Paradise. On such nights it was my custom to walk for hours together, enjoying the pleasures that nature afforded. A Manilla cheroot would then be my constant companion; and, as its soothing influence would calm the perturbations of the mind, annoyed by some troublous occurrences of the day, it would dispose it to a pleasing state of contemplation, completely in harmony with the placid and lovely grandeur of the scenery around me. Every tree, shrub, and plant received water by the numerous channels which intersected the garden. Like the Egyptians of old, I could say, "With a kick of my foot I could water my land;" for I had only to remove with my foot the mound of clay which obstructed the entrance of the water, to have it come rushing in, and flowing through every plot and parterre. The immense labour of watering was thus saved; and in the driest seasons, when vegetation elsewhere was brown and withered, the greenness and freshness of my garden were as vigorous as ever. My garden henceforth became the theme of conversation throughout the island, and many came to see it. On one occasion I was honoured with the visit of His Excellency the Governor, who was delighted to find fertility in a spot naturally so wild and barren, and was pleased to pass very handsome encomiums on my industry and taste in thus reclaiming a

wilderness. I had indeed converted a field, covered with rocks and stones, into a beautiful and fruitful garden, teeming with the richest productions of a tropical soil.

In order to avail themselves of the labour of the grown-up males among the Africans, the Colonial Government ordered all the men and boys above fourteen years of age at Lemon Valley, with the exception of those who were required to do the hard work, to be transferred to Rupert's; and all the women, girls, and small boys, to be sent from thence to our Station. The men, who were now almost all of them located at Rupert's, were delivered up to the tuition of the engineers, who came every morning at eight o'clock, after the negroes had got their breakfast of coffee and biscuit, to conduct them to Sandy Bay, exactly on the opposite side of the island, at a distance of nine miles, over high hills and deep valleys. There they had to work all day at carrying limestone, without anything to eat till their return to the Station, which was at about eight p.m., and often much later. They then partook of their substantial meal of sugar and rice, those articles then constituting their dinner by the especial recommendation of the Governor, as will be related. After a walk of eighteen miles, on such mountainous ground as is found everywhere in St. Helena, climbing up hills of an elevation of 2,000 feet, and descending valleys of corresponding depth, and, besides the walk, working all day at the severe toil of carrying limestone, the animal economy, it might be supposed, wanted something more nourishing than sugar and rice. Colonel Trelawney, the Governor, thought, however, otherwise; and this was the diet these hard-working Helots of British philanthropy received from the hands of their taskmasters. Could the Portuguese have treated them much worse? This was, indeed, teaching them to be engineers with a vengeance! Let it be remembered, that at this time they had no pecuniary remuneration for their work, as may be alleged. No; nothing! Subsequently, when they were employed breaking stones and repairing the roads, they were allowed something, which just amounted to half a stick of tobacco, of the value of a halfpenny, to those who were diligent; but I think it was never given to them as wages, for most inadequate it would have been, but as a gratuity, to encourage them to work. Surely it was never the intentions nor the commands of the Home Government to feed and work the Liberated Africans in this way!

To describe the duties exacted from the Medical Officer who was appointed to the situation of surgeon to the Station at Rupert's Valley, would be a difficult task. He was not required to attend upon the sick; for as the Africans fell ill, they were sent in boat-loads to the hospital at Lemon Valley. Nevertheless, he was supposed to be their medical attendant, and paid as such by the Government. Indeed, it would take an ingenious imagination to discover what Mr. Henry Solomon had to do in the Liberated African Establishment. It would be about as easy to write a history of St. Helena before the Flood as detail the functions which he performed in his present office. Literally meaning, if not speaking, he was neither the Surgeon of the Station,

nor the Clerk, nor an Overseer—and, of course, he was not a Matron ; the only word fit to describe him is *cypher*, and his situation may be best defined by calling it a *sinecure*.

For four months after the expiration of the quarantine, no slave-vessels, having infectious diseases, arrived at St. Helena. Three, however, came in with pretty full complements of slaves, amounting to 774, and of course had about the usual quantum of disease on board, small-pox being excepted. These vessels, the *Euro*, *Boa Nova*, and *Triumfo*, landed their living cargoes at Rupert's, the sick amongst whom, after lying for a few days there, were transferred to Lemon Valley to be attended on by me. It was during the short period from the 16th March, the date of the arrival of the "*Minerva*," to the 15th August ensuing when the memorable "*Corisco*" came in, that Mr. Solomon was employed in some degree, if ever he was ; his arduous labour then consisted in pointing out the sick with a stick, and ordering them to be sent off to Lemon Valley ; subsequently even this trifling duty was performed by Mr. Augustus Kennedy, the clerk, or Charles Tracey, one of the overseers. As may be imagined, the Government launch in the charge of the Harbour-master was frequently in requisition, conveying from Rupert's to Lemon Valley, 50, 60, and even 100 sick Africans at a time ; and it was a daily spectacle to see parties of from five to fifteen arrive. This occupation of conveying sick and dying negroes was not much relished by the Lascars in the marine department, who grumbled and growled excessively about it : they were not very desirous of officiating as Charons to people blacker than themselves, and would have gladly resigned them to the care of that fabulous personage. There was something in these transportations, as they may most emphatically be called, not unlike what the classical scholar might suppose to take place at times in Pluto's dominions. The large barge moving slowly on, impelled by the intermitting movements peculiar to Oriental boatmen when rowing—the monotonous song of the Lascars sung to keep time with the strokes of the oars, their outlandish dress and appearance being of Malay extraction, and the immense crowd of unearthly-looking passengers, dull, listless, quiet, many of them all but inanimate, a few completely so, might be taken not inaptly for Charon's boat gliding heavily on the thick waters of the Styx, rowed by the pilots of Hades, and carrying a full cargo of human souls to the regions beyond.

This system of transporting the sick was unfortunately always practised, in spite of the horrors attending it. For the sake of humanity it ought never to have been sanctioned ; and when the sufferings occasioned by it were made known, as they were repeatedly, it ought instantly to have been abandoned. The accommodations at Rupert's for lodging the sick were more ample and comfortable than what we possessed at Lemon Valley. Why, then, could they not have been permitted to remain there, instead of tossing them about in boats, exposing them to the weather, and subjecting them to knocks and blows, which they could not fail to receive during the trajet ? If Mr. Solomon was too fine a gentleman to attend upon them, many other surgeons might

have been procured who would have been glad to accept of his situation, and who would have conscientiously discharged its duties. It was one of the most cruel and heartless measures that could have been devised, transcending the horrors attending the transportation of criminals; and as it was resorted to not from necessity, there was no excuse for it. It was the cause of aggravating the complaints of the Africans, but that was not the extent of the evil. As the most miserable and emaciated beings, in the last stage of scurvy and dysentery, unable to move, with just vitality in them, and that was all, would be put into the boat, and the usage they experienced during the removal being anything but gentle, it is not astonishing that the last flickering spark of life should be often extinguished in them, and that two or three should die in the boat during the passage, and a few more on the rocks, where they were landed, after their arrival. Indeed, such was always the case, and the mortality would not cease there, for some more deaths were sure to take place within twenty-four hours after their admission into the hospital. Such were the lamentable results that accompanied these truly Stygian expeditions.

The Africans liberally availed themselves of the liberty they enjoyed to indulge in their rambling propensities through the island. No sooner was the cessation of quarantine announced, than they started off in all directions, some in the expectation of finding their way home to their countries, but most of them, I imagine, having given up the idea of being able to effect their return, contented themselves with examining what was to be seen, and seizing whatever they could find worth taking possession of. Some contrived to enter the gardens and fields of the farmers, and steal pears, peaches, yams, and chillies; a few were accused of lifting the poultry and eggs; but I suspect these depredations were not carried to any great extent, and that the principal part of the negroes contented themselves with despoiling the brambles of the blackberries, gathering of water-cresses, bitter-sweet, and chenopodium, catching of mice, and collecting of crickets and grasshoppers. It was diverting to see the groups arrive at the Station on their return from their excursions. Perhaps a dozen women would come, with their gowns drawn up, full of water-cresses, and large bundles of bitter-sweet, tied in dirty handkerchiefs, balanced on their heads, accompanied with a troop of girls, loaded with tin pots, holding their insect prey, while a parcel of boys would bring up the rear with a string or two of field-mice. What cooking would ensue when these expeditions had been successful! The crickets would be stewed entire in a gravy composed of beef or mutton fat, a stock of which was generally kept on the head, the cleanly cook having nothing to do but extend his fore-finger to his woolly hair, and cut off a slice of the lump of fat he had deposited there, with as much confidence in its retaining its savour and oleaginous qualities as if it had been locked up in a cool larder. It is quite a common practice with them to gather round the pots, when the meat has done cooking, and skim off the fat from the gravy, which, when cold, they will rub their bodies with till their skins shine in the sun like polished ebony; if any remains, they form it into a ball, and stick

it on the hair of their heads, to be used in a similar manner on a future occasion, or perhaps to serve as lard to cook the most delicate dishes with. The bitter-sweet and chenopodium were generally boiled into a mess like spinach. They had, however, a peculiar way of preparing the water-cresses. These would be boiled, then spread out upon stones to dry, then exposed to the fire till they became crisped, and lastly pulverised by rubbing them between the palms of the hands. This powder constituted their pepper, and was sprinkled copiously over their rice, meat, and everything else. As for the mice, they, as well as the rats and cats which the negroes would occasionally get, were not very carefully cleaned previous to cooking; the hair being roughly singed off, they were laid on the live embers, and baked brown; and were considered by them as luxurious feeding, as young sucking pigs are in England. Such were the delicious articles always introduced at their feasts: if rejected by us, they were as highly relished by them. Frogs are esteemed by Frenchmen; macaroni by Italians; onions by Spaniards; curry by Hindoos; pilaus by Arabs; albicore by Yam-stocks (the natives of St. Helena); pork and treacle by Yankees; and roast beef by John Bulls. With a bottle of Cape wine, and the messes I have described, the negroes would not envy the gods in Elysium their ambrosia and their nectar.

Certainly, the greatest enjoyment of a negro is to sit near a fire, half naked, with his bare legs extended close to the burning embers, the sweat oozing in odoriferous drops from his face and body, and his eyes fixed attentively on the simmering pot that contains the materials of his repast. For whole hours together will you find him so engaged, in perhaps precisely the same attitude. This occupation, together with that of eating, or rather cramming, smoking, sleeping, and the indulgence of another animal propensity, constitutes his highest delight, and is considered by him as the grand object of life. If there exists a religion amongst them, which I greatly doubt, teaching them that there is a future state of being where man experiences an increase of either happiness or misery, it must, to suit their ideas of felicity, make of heaven a cook-shop, kitchen, and dormitory!

At other times the Africans would return from their rural peregrinations completely metamorphosed in appearance. With the yellow and red ochres, and black mineral earths, which they would find in the caverns of the mountains, they would paint their faces and breasts, making streaks or patches of different colours, sometimes adding the ornament of a periwig daubed over with clay. The dandies among them, spurning the last fashion as low and vulgar, would, instead of it, shave the hair off their heads, and smearing it with the black earth, dust over it the pollen of flowers, their bald pates appearing like ebony balls sprinkled over with gold-dust. They would also stick here and there the large yellow anthers of lilies on different parts of the face to represent beauty-spots. I suspect the pollen and anthers were used as substitutes for gold-dust and tinsel, with which the grandees of their country adorn their persons in the manner described, and which custom the negroes in the present instance derived from them. A usage drawn from such

high authority could not fail to be admired by the aspiring geniuses amongst them, who, like their booby representatives at home, were very aristocratical, and fond of wearing some badge of distinction. It was on this account, no doubt, that they principally prided themselves on their pollen-powdered heads, and anther-tinselled faces.

When an inhabitant of the island wished to obtain the services of a Liberated African, he made an application to the Collector of Customs, and a paper signed either by the Collector, his first clerk, or the clerk of the department of the African Establishment at the Custom-house, was delivered to him, containing words to the following effect:—

“Please deliver to Mr. ——— a Liberated African (man, woman, boy, or girl, whichever it might be that was required), reporting particulars.”

This was handed to the applicant, who, on the delivery of the order to the officer in charge of the Station, proceeded to select an individual, and having procured his or her consent, without further trouble took the person away from the Establishment. Of the 286 Africans who, up to September 1843, thus entered into service, I know of but one who was brought up by his master to a mechanical trade; and he was taught to be a cooper, and was very clever at his business for the little instruction he received. The whole, then, with that single exception, were employed as domestic servants, or as labourers for digging the potato-grounds, or looking after the sheep and cattle of the farmers. Though 286 be the number of Africans assumed to have been apprenticed, yet it would be more correct to increase it to double or treble the amount; for their masters, when tired of them, returned them to the Establishment, and took others; and these again were exchanged for a third lot, and so on indefinitely. To explain the reason of this is very easy:—the wages of a labourer in St. Helena are from 2s. to 2s. 6d. a day; to save which, Africans are got, and made to do the work, for which they receive food, and sometimes a penny a week to buy a stick of tobacco with: some masters were more generous, and gave 3d. a week, and a few perhaps carried their prodigality so far as to give 1s. After a month or two, the negro became more handy and skilful, and finding, though he performed as much work as a native labourer, that he received but 3d. a week, while the other was paid at the rate of perhaps 2s. a day, would become discontented, turn idle and impudent, so that his master, instead of increasing his wages, which would have satisfied the negro, preferred sending him back to the Establishment, as he could procure another in his place, out of whom he could get two or three months' labour at the same cheap rate, and then exchange him for a third, and so on.

Whenever an African servant by hard work or exposure to the weather became sick, his master would call at the Custom-house, and procure an order to exchange him, or return him to the Establishment; so that the poor creature would be forced to walk (perhaps little able to do so) to the Lemon Valley Hospital to be cured at the expense of Government, or die and swell the number of deaths at the Station, although his disease may have been contracted while at service. When a servant has become ill in his master's house, there seems to be some-

thing very mean and revolting in the practice of turning him out, and getting rid of him. Surely the common dictates of humanity ought to tell the unfeeling master, that a servant who has contracted illness in his service is entitled to his hospitality, care, and attention, until restored to health. If his conscience is not convinced by such charitable arguments, the regulations respecting the apprenticeship of the Liberated Africans ought to have compelled him to afford shelter and medical attendance to his sick servants, and to get them cured at his own expense.

It is singularly true, though lamentable to relate, that the persons who, above all others, should have discouraged and put a stop to this system, practised it most. No poor farmer, for whom there might have been an excuse on account of his poverty, ever sent his sick negro servants to the hospital belonging to the Establishment, to the same extent as Colonel Trelawney, the governor, and his son-in-law, and private secretary, Captain Young of the Royal Artillery.

Verbal orders were repeatedly given by the Collector of Customs to receive no more Africans from service on the Establishment; but they were as often broken by his permitting masters to return them; and the annexed note sent to me by the first clerk of the Customs' Department will illustrate the manner in which commands and instructions issued at one time were contradicted and altered immediately afterwards.

“MY DEAR SIR,—After the many debates which have occurred on the subject of masters returning their servants to the Stations, it may seem strange that the negro girl whom I have had so long should be amongst the number; but as I think this will not be a solitary instance soon, I am induced to apprise you of the cause of the alteration in our sentiments on this subject.

"The Collector is preparing printed circulars to send to each possessor of Liberated African servants, requesting to know if they wish to retain them or not, and upon what terms. If not, the question arises for the Governor's decision, what is to become with them? Notwithstanding the fine talk, 'they are free,' &c., the practical result will be, they are free to do what? Starve! This *must* not be, and the inevitable consequence *will be*—they must return to the Stations.

"As an illustration of this, I will mention that one of the Governor's boys absconded from him to Rupert's on Friday. I sent him back. His Excellency would not keep a negro who had once quitted his service—and who can compel him (or any one) to do so? Acting by this guide, I have taken advantage of a fit of the sulks of my little negro girl, who said she wished to go to Lemon Valley, to obtain the Collector's permission for her to do so.

"G. M'Henry, Esq. M.D. C.M. &c. &c.
"Lemon Valley."

"Yours faithfully,
(Signed) "S. F. PRITCHARD."

At length, after abolishing and reviving alternately some dozens of times the system of receiving at the Stations negro servants from service, I was favoured with the following very precise commands :—

" Custom-house, St. Helena, 3d October, 1843.

SIR,—I have the honour to inform you, that from and after this date no Liberated African is to be received at your Station from service on any account whatever; and should a deviation of this order ever occur, the overseer in charge will be surcharged in the amount of issues on this account.

"G. M'Henry, Esq. M.D. C.M.

"Lemon Valley."

"I have the honour to be, Sir,
 "Your most obedient Servant,
 (Signed) "JNO. YOUNG, Coll."

The very first Liberated African servant returned to the Station after the emanation of the above order was sent by Captain Young, on the 24th October, and with the sanction of the Collector. After the peremptory orders given only three weeks before, it will scarcely be credited that they were overlooked and set aside so soon. Such was invariably the loose and inconsistent way of doing business, proposing one thing to-day, and changing it to-morrow—and giving orders this week, and breaking them the next. Under such a system it was impossible to observe any method. Inconstancy was the motto of the Establishment. And if ever any approach to regularity took place in the despatch of business, it was in spite, and not in consequence, of the laws which were invented for its government.

No investigation was made into the character of the applicants who desired to receive Liberated Africans into their service, or respecting their ability to supply their servants with food and clothing; but any person, of any rank, condition of fortune, or of any sort of reputation, either good or bad, was allowed to select whatever he required. Accordingly, all sorts of people accommodated themselves with servants; even the fishermen, the poorest of the population, and notorious for their drunkenness, were permitted to enjoy the boon of taking to themselves drudges. Seeing all his neighbours elevated into the rank of gentlemen, served by black domestics, the mulatto fisherman became likewise proud, and followed the laudable example set him. If he had no wages to give, he had at least plenty of work, and henceforth, instead of carrying his fish himself to his customers, he authoritatively delegated that office to his sable attendant. It would have been ridiculous, if it had not been also painful from the associations of poverty and wretchedness attached to the spectacle, to behold these fellows marching stately away to their homes on the arrival of their boats, unencumbered with even their gear, while their negro lackey would follow behind with their bags of fish, their lines, and all their paraphernalia. Both master and man would live on albicore and rice during the whole year round, with the addition of copious libations of Cape wine when their fishing excursions had been successful, and with the difference of rather scanty meals when fish were scarce, or they themselves were lazy.

The washerwomen of James' Town were likewise affected with the mania of negro-keeping; although themselves obliged to unite the profits of prostitution with the labour of their trade to gain a precarious livelihood, yet they were not afraid to admit one or two African servants into their establishments. A young lad, who was in the service of one of these ladies, furnished me with some very curious details respecting the habits of his mistress, and the nature of the duties which were exacted from him; and from the arch and knowing manner with which he related these interesting anecdotes, it was easy to perceive that his mistress' lessons had not been lost upon him, but that he would soon have been a proficient in the calling to which he was apprenticed.

To idolatrous Lascars and Chinamen, spending the greater part of their time in gambling, was the privilege also conceded of taking servants or associates from amongst the Liberated Africans.

And so her gracious Majesty's bounty of £5 a-head was to be accorded for forcibly taking these Africans from the Portuguese, because these would have made them slaves, to deliver them up to the tutelage and care of fishermen, washerwomen, Chinese, and Lascars, who would not perhaps enslave them, but most likely starve them, be unable to clothe them, learn them no trade, bring them up to habits of drunkenness and prostitution, and for aught I know to the contrary, instead of educating them to be Christians, convert them to the tenets of Confucius or the doctrines of Mahomet. And this is done for the sake of humanity!

When a negro was given up (it can scarcely be called apprenticed) to an inhabitant of the island, it was the regulation, observed with great exactitude at the beginning of the Establishment, that his master should bring with him clothes for the use of his future servant; and whatever the negro was dressed in was taken off and delivered up to the Establishment. After a while this system became neglected, and I suspect it was owing to the practice of lending Africans for a limited period, which was subsequently introduced. The masters of negroes, thinking it was too expensive to provide clothes for them during the short time their services would be required, would only accept of them on the condition of their leaving the Establishment with the clothes they had on them, with which they were returned to the Station when no longer wanted. To no person whatever, as far as I am aware, was the favour extended of furnishing clothes from the Establishment for the use of his Liberated African servants after they had once entered his service, except to Col. Trelawney, the Governor. He alone enjoyed the prerogative, because, I suppose, he was best able to pay for them. His Excellency always had a large number of negroes in his employment, to look after his sheep and cattle, cut wood, fetch water, labour in the ground, and for many domestic occupations. Whether he should have followed the general rule of providing clothes for them, I leave others to determine; I only state facts as they occurred---let others, if they wish, investigate the propriety or otherwise of them.

While the poor farmers and other inhabitants were obliged to provide both food and clothing for the Africans they took into their service, Governor Trelawney, as has been seen, was furnished with the latter from the Establishment for the use of his negro servants; and his Honour the Judge was allowed to have four negro men, for the space of five months, to clear away the bushes and blackberries, and otherwise work on his premises, without even supplying them with food, the Africans having their breakfast given them at the Station of High Knoll before their departure to work, and receiving their dinner on their return in the evening. This was very honourable for his Honour, certainly. Had Judge Wilde been familiar with the Scriptures, the expression of Laban, addressed to Jacob, could not have failed to occur to him, when thus availing himself of the gratuitous services of the Liberated Africans: "Because thou art my brother, shouldest thou therefore serve me for nought? tell me what shall thy wages be?"

From what I have related, it will easily be inferred that masters of

Liberated African servants entered into no bond for their maintenance ; no deed of apprenticeship was made out to bind the master to teach a trade, or enforce the servant to give his labour for a specified time : a simple order, of the sort I have described, was granted by the Collector of Customs to the applicant, to procure an African of whatever kind he wanted. Since masters could also turn their negro servants adrift without giving them warning, or exchange them for others as it suited their convenience, surely it was but reciprocally just that negro servants should enjoy the equivalent prerogative of leaving their masters when they pleased, and seeking others,—or if they did not like St. Helena, of embarking on board of some emigrant ship for the West Indies. Such seems to be the fair relation between masters and servants in the absence of all written and legal agreements. Such, however, Captain Barnes, the town-major, and chief magistrate of the island, did not consider it ; and as it was unfortunately in his power to make laws, if they did not already exist, and enforce them, it was not an unusual act of his to order a *Liberated* African to be committed to the lock-up, not for any crime or misdemeanour, but because he was guilty of exercising his discretion in absconding from a master with whom he could not live happy or contented. When the schooner “Margaret” was in St. Helena, to convey African emigrants to Trinidad, a negro lad was thus, and for this reason solely, put in gaol, and was released only when his master consented to his coming out on the condition of his emigrating. The lad refused to leave St. Helena at first, but a night spent on the cold floor of the prison, without anything to cover him, or any food to eat, except what a policeman bestowed on him, *for charity*, altered his resolution, and he decided next day to go on board. Even then, Captain Thomas of the “Margaret” had to pay 3s. to the generous policeman, for the food he had so *charitably* furnished, before the lad was permitted to leave the lock-up, as it was jocularly designated. I wonder if the lawyers could not discover something very like false imprisonment in this proceeding. At any rate, I would recommend “Barnes’ Jurisprudence” to every county magistrate, deficient in knowledge of law ; if likewise wanting in common sense, or common humanity, he might make amends by the rigour of his decisions, for which he would find text and precedent in the learned volume I have mentioned.

Few of the inhabitants of the island requiring female African servants, the bulk of the people drawn from the Establishment was composed of men. Some grown-up boys and young girls were taken into service, but these were inconsiderable in number in comparison with the men. From the last labour could be exacted immediately, while, with the boys and girls, a longer period was requisite to render them useful ; they had to be taught and brought up to the work, and in the interval would perhaps grow tired of their masters and mistresses, and leave them. As for the negro women, they were not liked at all for servants in any capacity ; they were too indolent to work, and too stubborn to be taught. When taken into service, the men were of course

separated from their wives, who were obliged to remain at Lemon Valley, while their husbands were domiciliated in the town or country. Negroes are proverbial for their connubial attachments; in the pleasures of love they find a compensation for the unkindness of fortune; and if they are not constant and faithful, they are at least ardent, while under the influence of the overwhelming passion. The men who had worked all the week for their masters, determined to enjoy their Sundays in the society of their wives and sweethearts. Nothing could prevent them from coming down to Lemon Valley on that day; neither threats, promises, nor entreaties could avail in deterring them. The Station resembled an Irish country fair. From the early dawn to noon, parties of negroes would be seen entering the Valley by all directions, attired in their finest apparel, with bundles of potatoes, yams, and fruit as presents for their mistresses. Great feasting would invariably take place; many a bottle of Cape wine would be drained, many a sable virgin sold, and many a wrinkled wife exchanged on these occasions. Jealousies would naturally be created by this barbarous sale of female charms; and the unsuccessful lover, gathering his friends around him, would attack his more fortunate rival and his party, and rows, worthy of Donnybrook, would frequently ensue. A quarrel, begun by an insignificant fraction arising from some nonsensical love affair, would soon extend to whole tribes, who, converting the private dispute into a party feud, would fight with the rancour and desperation of national enemies. Large sticks, matching any blackthorn shillelahs, would be used with uncommon dexterity, and many a contusion on the head and legs be inflicted by them. Knives were even resorted to, and blood was often freely drawn. I remember an Angola who was stabbed in three places by a Congo; one of the wounds was very large and on the neck, but happily was not followed by bad consequences. I have seen lumps the size of apples over the shin-bone, against which they have a particular fashion of aiming their blows, judging, no doubt, that place to be more sensitive than even the head, as it is said to be among negroes. Mozambiques, Congos, Benguelas, and Angolas were all equally devoted to the pastime of breaking each other's bones; and it was the regular custom to pass their Sabbaths, as I have mentioned, not in devotional exercises, but in the enjoyment of the rites of love, and in feats of pugilism and *escrime*.

Disgusted with the treatment they received from their masters, many of the Africans would run away, and conceal themselves at Lemon Valley. During the day they would hide in the caverns which abound in the sides of the mountains, and at night come down to the Station, their wives supplying them with a portion of their rations. The men, too, who were located at Rupert's, tired and annoyed at the work they were obliged to perform, and desirous of enjoying the delights of female companionship, would frequently escape, and pass days together at Lemon Valley without being discovered. These evasions were always the cause of severe recriminations against the officials of the Station, and if they could by the exercise of the greatest vigilance have prevented

the Africans from taking refuge in the retreats provided for them in the precincts of the Station by nature during the day, and during the night by female affection in the Station itself.

In the month of July a disease broke out among the Africans at Lemon Valley, which, from its resemblance to smallpox, created a great deal of alarm at the commencement. I had observed it during the existence of quarantine on board of the "*Andorinha*," in different instances, on the persons of those who were just recovering from smallpox; but as it then appeared to be extremely slight, and occurred only in a few cases, I had taken but little notice of it. Now it appeared and attacked the Africans with great rapidity, and to a great extent. This disease is called *catapora* by the Portuguese, and by the Benguelas "*aitchingongo catito*," which means mild smallpox. The negro definition is not a bad one, for it is certainly a varioloid affection. It is preceded, like the smallpox, by constitutional symptoms, which, however, are not in general very severe; and it seems to be infectious. Isolated cases sometimes occurred on board the hospital ship, on patients convalescent of smallpox; but when one African on shore became affected with it, it usually ran through many others in a very short time. Though easily contracted by the negroes, yet no European or mulatto overseer or their children ever took the disease, although living together in the same locality.

Catapora is ushered in with shiverings, followed by great heat of skin, increasing in degree towards the evening, as in all febrile affections which are not intermittent. Pains in the head, back, pit of stomach, and limbs, attend this stage of the complaint. Weakness of the frame, giddiness, nausea, with a disposition to sleep, are also induced; the patient, moreover, is troubled in almost every instance with a sore throat, which is more or less covered with aphthæ and vesicles. After the symptoms just enumerated have existed for a day or two, small papulæ break out on the face and neck, not extending to the chest till the next day, and the eruption will probably not show itself on the inferior extremities till the day after. Up to the present time no physician could discover the difference between it and mild smallpox. The severity of the symptoms, premonitory to the appearance of the eruption, and its characters and march from the upper parts downwards, exactly resemble what takes place in smallpox, and distinguish it from chicken-pox, from which again the circumstance of its not being infectious among Europeans helps to form a diagnosis. Had the *catapora* been nothing more nor less than chicken-pox, why did not the officials and their children who lived on the Station, and who had never had the chicken-pox, take it? Dr. Heberden declares he has never seen above a dozen spots on the face in the worst cases of chicken-pox, and it is well known to come out on the breast before it appears on the face. On the contrary, *catapora* runs the same course downwards as smallpox does, and will often attack the face to a great extent. The *catapora*, I should say, holds a middle rank between smallpox and chicken-pox, like the former during the first four days, and resembling the latter in the rest of its course.

The appearance of the papulæ usually mitigates the virulence of the preceding febrile symptoms, and the headache and sickness become relieved. The pimples, the size of pin-points at first, quickly grow larger, and in twenty to twenty-four hours become vesicular with a slight central depression. In another twenty-four hours the vesicles arrive at their maturity; they then consist of a fine transparent membrane, containing a perfectly clear fluid; they are now plump and full without any depression; they are also of different forms, some describing an oval on the skin, others a circle, others again irregular figures, and their apex will be flattish, round, or acuminate. The skin at the base of the vesicles becomes swelled and red, and apparently tightened; but from the eruption rarely assuming a confluent character, or extending thickly over any part, the skin is never so red and swelled as in smallpox, neither is the pain so severe. On the following day the lymph of the vesicles is no longer limpid like water, but turns of a milky diaphanous colour from the admixture of a small quantity of pus, the result of slight suppuration of the true skin below, as I should conjecture; the vesicles now completely resemble pearl-heads. After presenting the opaque whitish appearance, the vesicles soon fall in at their centre, where a lightish brown scab begins to form, and as the fluids inside dry up, the scabs increase in size probably at the expense of the lymph, and the surrounding skin gets purplish and puckered up with radiations. In the course of a day or two more the scabs are perfectly formed, and will be then found lying level with the neighbouring skin, or sometimes a little below it, which latter appearance arises no doubt from the ulceration of the *cutis vera*, and wherever it is observed there is sure to be left a pit on the spot. I have seen faces of patients marked by catapora in the same way they are disfigured by smallpox, only that the pits are in general larger.

I am not prepared to pronounce whether the vesicles of catapora are composed of distinct cells, as is the case in variola and varicella. I rather think not. But the elucidation of this fact could be easily solved by directing inquiries to be made on the subject by the naval surgeons on board of the cruisers employed on the coast of Africa.

There is not the least doubt that catapora bears as strong a relation to smallpox as cowpox does, though in a different manner. In its physical characters the resemblance is more complete, as it is in the nature of the constitutional symptoms that precede the appearance of the eruption, in its diffusion over the body, and the sort of pits it leaves behind it. With the two diseases named, and likewise with chicken-pox, it is possible that it will yet be discovered to be connected in many particulars sufficient to justify nosologists to consider them but as varieties of the same malady. One attack of catapora seems to protect the constitution from another, for I never saw the same person affected twice.

From not being acquainted with the previous history of my patients, I could not draw the satisfactory conclusions I might otherwise have done, from the extensive experience afforded me of observing the catapora. As it was impossible to discover who among the Liberated Africans had been attacked with it in their own country before their arrival

at St. Helena (for it seldom disfigures the person, being much milder than smallpox, rarely leaving marks behind it), it was difficult to place any reliance on the accuracy of the facts I imagined I had elicited in the course of my investigations.

I thought I remarked that catapora generally accompanied smallpox, or followed it, seeming as if it were the dregs of the disease. Certainly the previous invasion of smallpox will not guarantee against its appearance. When it does occur after the recovery from smallpox, it only attacks one or two persons, constituting solitary instances. For example, when upwards of a hundred Africans would be on board the "Andorinha," all of them in a convalescent state from smallpox, perhaps half-a-dozen of them would exhibit the vesicles of catapora, which would not extend to the remainder. In these cases no fever preceded or accompanied the eruption, which seemed to come out on those occasions just as boils, or other common papular or herpetic eruptions. In one single instance I witnessed the coexistence of the vesicles of catapora with the pustules of smallpox; neither of the combined affections was severe. I mention this as an extraordinary circumstance.

I may also add, that an individual who has had catapora may be susceptible to the invasion of smallpox, but the latter disease is always slight—at least it was so in the instances to which I refer.

Whenever catapora broke out on shore amongst the Africans who had not suffered from smallpox, it was then far more severe in its symptoms, and appeared to be much more infectious.

From what took place at St. Helena, I should infer that the Benguelas were more exempt from its attacks than any other tribe, for no cases of it occurred on shore, and but very few on board-a-ship, during the existence of quarantine—the slaves on board of the "Julia," "Marcianna," and "Louiza" being principally Benguelas. This was probably owing to the continual prevalence of varioloid diseases in their country: hence the greater part of them had been most likely attacked with both smallpox and catapora in early life. Although smallpox, when introduced into St. Helena, was always brought from Benguela, yet the negroes who arrived in the infected vessels did not in general suffer so much as the Mozambiques and Angolas who were located on shore, and to whom the infection had been communicated from the Benguelas.

A very singular experiment which I tried I shall relate here, leaving it to medical men to draw what inference they choose from it, and trusting that it may lead to a more minute inquiry into the pathology of catapora.

From among the Africans living on shore I took eight boys, who said they had never been attacked with either the catapora or variola, but whose statements, of course, could not be relied on, and inoculated them with the lymph of catapora; and, two days afterwards, put them on board of the "Andorinha," among cases of smallpox. The inoculation succeeded with only two out of the eight. These two had a perfectly-formed vesicle on the spot of the punctures, and a few more on the arm around. Of the two, one took the smallpox, and had it

mildly ; while the other escaped, along with all the six who were proof against the inoculation of the catapora. It may be alleged that there was nothing extraordinary in any of these eight cases ; that the reason why six of them escaped both diseases was, because they had had them both before ; and that if one out of the two on whom the inoculation of catapora succeeded did not afterwards take smallpox, it was owing to his having been already attacked with it at some period beyond his recollection. All these assumptions may be correct, but they require to be proved. When I add, however, that not only on these eight persons, but on every one who had been previously attacked by catapora, vaccination invariably failed, there seems to be some grounds for the supposition, that there exists some unexplained connexion between catapora, variola, and varicella ; and, from what experience I derived from the interesting subject, I do think I should be warranted in considering them to be only modifications of the same disease.

So much does catapora resemble smallpox, that when the latter disease spread through St. Helena, many negro servants, who were affected with only catapora, were pronounced by the Health Officer and Colonial Surgeon to be attacked with smallpox, and were accordingly sent to the hospital ship, lying off Lemon Valley. Likewise, when an African emigrant vessel arrived about five years ago at Demerara with a party of negroes, among whom catapora was raging, the disease was suspected to be smallpox, and the vessel was put in quarantine in consequence, and only liberated when the mistake was discovered. I shall adduce just another instance to prove the very strong resemblance that exists between the two diseases. When the barque "Salsette" was ready to sail from St. Helena for Jamaica, in the end of 1843, with a large complement of African emigrants, the surgeon on board having pronounced that smallpox had broken out, the captain would not put out to sea for several days, being under the impression that great mortality would take place, and that the vessel would be put in quarantine on their arrival at Kingston. I was sent for to give my opinion respecting the malady in question, and when I assured them it was not smallpox, but a slight affection in comparison, never proving fatal, although certainly infectious among black people, my statements were not relied on, until they were corroborated by the mild progress of the complaint during three days, at the end of which time the captain would not depart without a written certificate from me, that it was not smallpox which they had on board.

THE CEYLON SPICE DUTIES.

WE publish below a petition agreed on by the cinnamon planters and other parties connected with that article of commerce in Ceylon, praying that Her Majesty's Colonial Secretary will be pleased to take measures for relieving them from the oppressive and mischievous burthen of the export duty now charged upon their spice. So far as regards the framing of the document in question, it appears to us that the most has not been made of a powerful case, by those who drew it up: the petition consisting only of some brief allegations relative to the mistaken and injurious nature of the impost pointed at, with but few arguments to enforce, and fewer facts to illustrate, the propriety of a demand for its withdrawal. Doubtless the inexpedience and injustice of the tax are so apparent, that no laboured reasoning is necessary to convince a candid inquirer on the subject; but we should have held it more judicious in the petitioners, had they, instead of leaving the Secretary for the Colonies to draw on his own knowledge for proofs and examples of the evil whose magnitude they generally represented, been prepared to go before him with a statement so full, practical, and conclusive, as to preclude the possibility of cavilling, and to shut up every avenue of escape from the wholesome results whereat they would have him to arrive. The cinnamon cultivation of Ceylon, thanks to the exorbitant one-shilling duty, is now carried on under circumstances of such a highly disadvantageous nature, as that it will presently be abandoned by all who can find a more remunerative investment for their capital. What the Colonial Minister has to take into his consideration therefore is, the future existence or non-existence of that spice as a cultivated article of export from Ceylon. By maintaining a preposterous charge upon it, during the period of her fancied secure monopoly of its production in time past, England brought the Dutch and other competitors into the market; thereby irreparably lowering the value of her own spice and occasioning a consequent loss to her Singhalese colonists, who were the only cultivators of it. In like manner, by adhering for a few years longer to the wretched principle which wrought the former evil, she may if she pleases consummate it by giving the whole cinnamon market to her rivals; whose production will go forward as her own declines. It is well known that the exports of this spice from Java are so regulated by the Dutch Government, as to prevent the glutting of their European market, and that a far larger quantity than now finds its way into the trade could be supplied from thence, whenever a remunerative opening for it was provided. If therefore the British Cabinet pursue their present system, and contract the cinnamon cultivation in Ceylon by fiscally devouring all its profits, they may rest assured that Java and the Malabar Coast, where no such grievous

burthen clogs its progress, will soon supplant their ill-used island altogether. Nor let it be imagined that any subsequent adoption of more statesmanlike and liberal views will easily reinstate her, when once it has been forfeited through the imprudence of the mother-country, in that relative position toward other spice-producing dependencies which she has now the fortune to enjoy. The English cinnamon market is a kind of close borough, wherein a little knot of brokers exercise an almost unlimited and irresponsible control, and as the consumption of the article does not, like that of most other commodities, increase *pari passu* with a decline of the price, it follows that the copious reintroduction of Ceylon produce, after its withdrawal for a time sufficient to make the supply elsewhere obtainable equivalent with the demand, would not by rivalry force Java from her hold upon the old market, nor yet create a new one. The superior quality of the Singhalese spice would indeed operate partially in its favour, but who shall say to what a measure of perfection the Javanese article might not be brought, when Holland had for several years monopolised, or nearly so, the European trade? And even under the most favourable circumstances that could befall her, a long period must necessarily elapse ere the British island could recover the ground that she has lost. We earnestly hope therefore that the Ceylon petitioners will urge their claim upon Lord Stanley, or his successor in office, with all the strength and perseverance in their power, and that should his Lordship hesitate to grant them the relief desired, they will betake themselves to Parliament for succour during the ensuing session. As however the one-shilling duty on cinnamon was retained by him chiefly in an experimental point of view, when the last abatement took place, there is good ground to hope that he will not maintain it, now that the consequences have been shown to be so unequivocally evil.

To the RIGHT HONOURABLE LORD STANLEY, Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies—The Petition of the undersigned Landholders, Merchants, Planters, and Inhabitants of Ceylon ;

RESPECTFULLY SHOWETH,

That being individually and generally deeply interested in the prosperity of this island in every branch of its commerce and agriculture, we trust to your Lordship's kind consideration of and attention to the following observations, which in duty to ourselves and the Government we consider we are bound to submit, as regards the causes and effects of the present depressed state of the trade in Cinnamon, once the staple article of its exports.

The received opinion that Ceylon had and would continue to possess a natural and exclusive monopoly of the spice was long held to be a sufficient warrant for supposing it might be burthened with the most exorbitant taxation without injury to the grower or fear of competition, and that the consumer alone would have to pay the revenue derived from the imposition. The fallacy of this hypothesis has been fearfully proved of late years by the increased introduction of the article into the European markets from Java and the Southern Districts of the Indian Continent, countries rendered capable of competing with us solely by their freedom from these excessive fiscal regulations which we have to strive against, highly pernicious in their effect in that they operate to foreigners as a bonus to contend for and usurp our position as regards this species of trade in the mercantile world, and have a tendency to

paralyse all enterprise and industry in a large proportion of the people of this island, entirely dependent on the culture of Cinnamon for their support.

That your Petitioners have not been able to discover throughout the Colonies of Britain why the product of the soil, whether used as an article of food, or merely as a luxury, having no demoralising effect, is one subjected to such heavy and unequal taxation as hitherto has been and is still imposed on Cinnamon by the export duty levied to enhance the revenue of Her Majesty's Customs in Ceylon.

That if the present excessive export duty, acting almost as a prohibition to the continuance of this once most valuable branch of our trade, be maintained, vast tracts of land, the soil of which is exclusively adapted to the growth of Cinnamon, will be thrown out of cultivation, being totally unfit for any other agricultural purpose.

That by the great increase in the general amount of duties levied upon the trade of Ceylon, and the progressing condition of the Colony, its revenues have been brought into a state to bear the temporary deficiency that the reduction solicited in the export duty upon cinnamon and cinnamon oil will occasion, and that therefore the present time appears the *most* favourable for submitting this petition to your Lordship, in the hope that the same enlightened policy which has lately induced the removal of all export duties from the products of Great Britain may be graciously extended to this her distant dependency.

Your Petitioners therefore pray that the special export duties now levied upon cinnamon and cinnamon oil may be altogether removed, and the same be in future subjected only to the export duty of two and a half per cent. which is levied *ad valorem* upon other products of this Colony.

For which favour,

Your Lordship's Petitioners,

As in duty bound, shall ever pray.

C. E. Layard,
Fred. Lambe,
Nun Chandler,
Donald Davidson,
J. B. Misso,

H. Ritchie,
Robert Dawson,
Hudson, Chandler, and Co.
Hormanjee,

And a number of Merchants, Planters, and Landholders of Colombo. "

October 1st, 1845.

THE INDIAN VOYAGER.

BY HENRY H. BREEN, ESQ.

I've wander'd in distant regions,
The homes of the fair and free;
Of wealth and poverty
I've counted the hostile legions:
Prince, pauper, and priest;
Gold, galleys, and glee:
Oh! let me feast with the savage beast,
In the wilds of my native sea.

I've traversed the fields of the stranger,
By river, road, and rail;
Alas! e'en those who quail
But little imagine the danger:
Train, tunnel, and track;
Burst, boiler, and break:
Oh! bear me back to my mountain hack,
And my boat on the glassy lake.

I've dwelt in the City of Wonders,
 The haunt of the worldly-wise;
 Their sullen, clouded skies,
 No sunshine of heav'n ever sunders:
 Fog, funnel, and foam;
 Cold, catarrh, and cramp:
 Oh! let me roam to my tropic home,
 Illumined by Nature's lamp.

I've loiter'd in grove and in garret,
 Long sacred to lyre and lute;
 But now, unpaid, all mute
 Hangs the harp of a Byron or Barrett:
 Hate, hunger, and hire;
 Drudge, drivel, and drone:
 Oh! let me fire my rustic lyre
 In the flash of the torrid zone.

I've worship'd, in church and in chapel,
 The type of each Christian scheme;
Here Bigotry raves supreme—
There Discord has thrown down her apple:
 Cowl, cloister, and cant;
 Glebe, Gospel, and gall:
 Oh! let me chaunt in the desert haunt
 A hymn to the Lord of All.

I've tarried with Dives, the miser,
 And smiled in his daughter's train—
 Who would her hand obtain,
 For her wealth, not her worth, must prize her:
 Pelf, pander, and pride;
 Sin, sorrow, and shock:
 Oh! let me glide to my homely bride,
 The bride of my native rock.

I've stood in the peasant's cottage—
 The heart-drop hung in his eye;
 His children heaved a sigh
 For a mess of poorhouse pottage:
 Tithe, treason, and test;
 Guilt, gallows, and gore:
 Oh! let me rest my harrow'd breast
 On the far Atlantic shore.

St. Lucia, Nov. 1845.

COLONIAL SHIPPING.

NUMBER, Tonnage, and Crews of Vessels that belonged to the several British Plantations in the Year 1844.

COUNTRIES.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
Europe—			
Malta	85	15326	892
Africa—			
Bathurst	25	1169	215
Sierra Leone	17	1148	111
Cape of Good Hope, Cape Town	27	3090	265
" " " Port Elizabeth	2	201	19
" " " Mauritius	124	12079	1413
Asia—			
Bombay	113	50767	3393
Cochin	15	5674	275
Tanjore	33	5070	257
Madras	32	5474	248
Malacca	2	288	13
Coringa	17	3384	136
Calcutta	186	51779	2604
Singapore	13	2543	289
Ceylon	674	30076	2696
Prince of Wales Island	7	996	51
New Holland—			
Sydney	293	28051	2128
Melbourne	29	1240	147
Adelaide	17	864	60
Hobart Town	103	7152	724
Launceston	42	3150	257
New Zealand—			
Auckland	13	305	32
Wellington	12	262	42
America—			
Canada, Quebec	509	45361	2590
" Montreal	60	10097	556
Cape Breton, Sydney	360	15048	1296
" Arichat	96	4614	335
New Brunswick, Miramichi	81	10143	509
" " St. Andrew's	193	18391	918
" " St. John	398	63676	2480
Newfoundland, St. John's	847	53944	4576
Nova Scotia, Halifax	1657	82890	5292
" " Liverpool	31	2641	163
" " Pictou	60	6929	354
" " Yarmouth	146	11724	637

(Colonial Shipping, continued.)

COUNTIES.	Vessels.	Tons.	Crews.
<i>America—(continued)</i>			
Prince Edward's Island	237	13861	856
West Indies, Antigua	55	833	220
" " Bahamas	140	3252	686
" " Barbados	37	1640	305
" " Berbice	18	854	89
" " Bermuda	54	3623	323
" " Demerara	54	2353	250
" " Dominica	14	502	85
" " Grenada	48	812	198
" " Jamaica, Port Antonio ..	5	95	22
" " " Annatto Bay ..	2	79	13
" " " Falmouth ..	5	107	29
" " " Kingston ..	68	2659	359
" " " Montego Bay ..	18	849	105
" " " Morant Bay ..	9	251	51
" " " Port Maria ..	3	86	18
" " " St. Ann's ..	1	20	4
" " " Savannah la Mar	3	153	22
" " " St. Lucea ..	2	61	10
" " Montserrat	4	100	19
" " Nevis	11	178	45
" " St. Kitt's	35	516	114
" " St. Lucia	19	913	132
" " St. Vincent	27	1161	180
" " Tobago	7	189	46
" " Tortola	48	278	127
" " Trinidad	61	1832	378
Total	7304	592839	40659

It will be seen from the foregoing statement, that the tonnage of the vessels belonging to our Colonies is about equal to that of the whole of the French mercantile marine, which, in 1841, consisted of 592,266 tons—1842, 589,517—1843, 599,707.

The tonnage of the three principal ports of Great Britain in 1844, was

London	598,554
Liverpool	307,852
Newcastle	259,571

Total 1,165,977

THE GROWING PROSPERITY OF THE PROVINCE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

THE Colony of South Australia is acquiring an exalted status amongst the Dependencies of the British Crown. Numbers are flocking to its shores from the surrounding settlements, and it will probably soon receive a more numerous influx from the mother-country. The former financial difficulties of the Province have given place to a sound and healthy condition of the Colonial Exchequer, and it therefore only remains for its rulers to achieve the full measure of prosperity by appropriately acknowledging the expenditure of the rich—by facilitating the extension of its commercial relations—by mercifully regarding the wants of the poor (few as they may be), and by striving to accelerate that moral and social advancement which seems to us to be happily progressing.

The Adelaide papers just received are full of interesting statistical facts and highly-encouraging circumstances, which serve to mark the present prosperous career of the Colonists.

The revenue, which had previously been insufficient for the public expenditure, became nearly equalised in 1844; and in the first quarter of the present year, the total receipts, exclusively Colonial, amounted to £8,786 11s. 11d., against an expenditure of £6,548 7s., showing a surplus of £2,238 4s. 11d. in a single quarter.

The sales of Crown land, which in all 1843 exhibited the meagre return of 598 acres, sold for £613 13s., rallied amazingly in 1844, the number of acres sold in that year being 3428, and the amount realised £5,666 13s.; but during the current half-year of 1845, the sales by auction exhibit an aggregate of 2,016 acres, sold for £4,314 19s., independently of a considerable number of sections sold by private contract, in conformity with the regulations, but of which there are as yet no published returns.

The circulation and deposits of the banking establishments, published in conformity with the legislative enactments, manifest a striking improvement in the monetary condition of the Province, and the individual resources of the Colonists. In 1843 the banks had reached their lowest point of depression, the circulation having been only £9,939 11s. 1d., and the deposits £51,897 7s. 5d. In 1844 there was a considerable improvement in the returns, but in the first half-year of 1845 the circulation has averaged £15,304 10s. 5d. and the deposits £63,170 18s. 4d., making the increase in circulation more than 50 per cent., and in deposits about 25 per cent.

The Exports of Colonial Produce had, from the small beginning of

£5,040 in 1838, attained to the large sum of £82,268 in 1844; and the probable large increase in the aggregate for the present year may be inferred from the fact that the exports for the first quarter of 1845 amounted to nearly *forty-six thousand pounds*.

The successful progress of the mines, although mainly attributable to Colonial industry and capital, is as undoubted as it is cheering. In 1844, the exports of lead and copper ores amounted to £6,436 10s. only; but the estimated value of the minerals exported during the *first quarter of 1845* was £7,424 13s. 6d., leaving large and valuable accumulations at the port and within the precincts of the mines.

The state of cultivation may also be inferred from the following transcript of official and duly-accredited statements:—

In 1810 the number of acres cultivated was 2,403; in 1844 the number in cultivation was 26,918. The following estimates in reference to wheat cultivation have been made by one of the leading corn-factors, whose correctness may be vouched for:—

The quantity of land producing wheat crops during the last three years, appears by the Government returns to have been—

Acres.		Bushels.
1842 14,000	} Producing, at 15 bushels to the acre, {	210,000
1843 23,000		345,000
1844 18,980		284,700
Total.....		839,700
The quantity required for home consumption in the three years of 1843, 1844, and 1845, would be 420,000		
For seed during the same period		60,000
		480,000
Total.....		359,700
The quantity exported up to the end of June, 1845		203,342
Leaving a gross available overplus of bushels		156,357

The estimate of the produce is low, and allows for every kind of waste, crops cut green, fires, and other casualties; and the quantity stated as surplus will, it is believed, be fully borne out.

The cultivation of wheat has rather fallen off, in consequence of the low price obtained. The highest prices for wheat during the last two years have been from 2s. 9d. to 3s. per bushel, though the quality is such as to have produced for it the highest prices in Mark Lane, and in the neighbouring Colonies. A considerable increase has, however, taken place in the cultivation of barley and oats, the former being extensively used in brewing.

The flour mills and manufactories are annually increasing in number, and enlarging their operations. In 1844, such establishments counted 56 in all, which comprise 21 flour-mills, of which eight are driven by steam.

Immigration and Population.—In 1844, 1,114 persons arrived in the

Colony by sea, and 347 left it, making the balance of increase 973 souls. In the first quarter of 1845 the immigration was 747, and the emigration 140, making the balance of increase 617 persons. The population is now upwards of 20,000 souls, and has been lately increasing at the rate of nearly 3,000 souls per annum, a considerable portion of the influx having consisted of industrious artisans and labourers, who have migrated from the neighbouring settlements, and express themselves well pleased with this Colony.

Decrease of Crime.—In 1840 the number of offenders convicted was 47. In 1844 the number was only 25.

The increase of stock has been such that the following authorised data for 1844 have been considered by all well-informed persons much below the real aggregates, namely :—

Sheep	.	450,000
Cattle	.	30,000
Horses	.	2,000
Goats and Pigs		12,000

The statistics from which we quote contain some other matter of general information, at which we may just glance. The number of schools is 26, and scholars 719. Sunday schools, 19; number of scholars, 1,150. Number of places of worship, 35; number of attendants, 3,245. In 1844, the letters despatched and received were 36,325, and the newspapers 61,015. In 1843 the amount of mortgages registered was £22,089 11s. 6d.; in 1844 the amount was £20,038 1s. 6d. In 1843 the other liabilities registered were £27,053 4s. 4d.; in 1844, £22,133 15s. 4d. In 1842, the fiats of insolvency were 37; in 1844, 10. In 1840, the writs from the Sheriff's Office were in number 154; in 1844, the number was *only ten*. A careful perusal of these unexaggerated facts and statements may suffice to convince those who feel interested in the welfare of the Colony, of the great measure of prosperity with which it is now (under Divine Providence) abundantly blessed, coupled, as that prosperous state undoubtedly is, with an enlarged perception of the great natural fertility and mineral productiveness of the land, a settled conviction of the salubrity of the climate, and a growing confidence in the pressing and untiring industry of its large daily-increasing population.

The land sold for cash and land orders, between 1st October, 1844, the date of last report, and 30th June, realised £6,846 18s.

RETURN of Ships Inwards and of Immigration at Port Adelaide during the Half Year ending 5th July, 1845.

GREAT BRITAIN.										BRITISH COLONIES. †										FOREIGN STATES.						TOTAL.			
Quarter.	No. of Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Passengers.						No. of Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Passengers.						No. of Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Passengers.							
				Adults.			Children.						Adults.			Children.						Adults.			Children.				
				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
1st.	2	743	39	67	45	16	16	31	2417	231	342	114	72	85	2	334	18	..	..	..	33	3160	270	409	159	88	101
2nd.	1	137	9	..	..	..	..	23	1757	150	230	81	35	34	..	..	..	..	..	..	26	2227	177	233	81	35	34

RETURN of Ships Outwards and of Emigration from Port Adelaide during the Half Year ending 5th July, 1845.

GREAT BRITAIN.										BRITISH COLONIES.										FOREIGN STATES.										TOTAL.			
Quarter.	No. of Ships.		Tons.	Men.	Passengers.						No. of Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Passengers.						No. of Ships.	Tons.	Men.	Passengers.										
	Adults.				Children.			Men.	Adults.					Children.			Men.	Adults.					Children.										
	M.	F.			M.	M.	F.		M.	F.				M.	F.	M.		F.	M.				F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
1st.	3	3	807	38	17	4	3	3	26	2374	194	90	20	1	2	4	628	51	283	109	25	4	6	33	3809	283	109	25	4	6			
2nd.	1	..	514	22	7	10	..	..	21	1449	129	62	10	3	1	5	650	105	2613	75	20	3	1	27	2613	256	75	20	3	1	

ROBERT R. TORRENS, Collector.

PORT OF ADELAIDE.

AN ACCOUNT of all Goods, Wares, and Merchandise received into and delivered from the Bonded Warehouses at this Port during the Quarter ending 5th July.

Species of Goods.	Quantities remaining in Warehouses at the commencement of Quarter.	Quantities Warehoused within the Quarter.	Deliveries for Home Consumption.	Deliveries for Exportation.	Quantities remaining in Warehouses at the end of the Quarter.
	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.	Gallons.
Brandy	3478	2644	2552	656	2832
Geneva	1332	254	242	146	1191
Gin, British	706	489	387	325	480
Rum, B. P.	4815	409	†1170	581	3440
Whiskey	2016	668	439	—	2242
Arrack	4	—	—	—	4
Wine	614	488	—	48	1054
Eau de Cologne ..	43	3	3	—	43
Tobacco, manu- factured	34,447 lbs.	*45,355 lbs.	8681 lbs.	27,550 lbs.	43,543 lbs.
Tobacco, leaf	952 lbs.	—	119 lbs.	—	833 lbs.
Cigars	3732 lbs.	701 lbs.	867 lbs.	20 lbs.	3546 lbs.
Snuff	229½ lbs.	400 lbs.	—	—	629½ lbs.
Ash oars	30	—	14	—	16
Rosin	198 cwt	—	—	—	198 cwt.
Anatomical figure	1	—	—	—	1
Salt	—	9 tons	—	9 tons	—
Glass	—	100 feet	—	100 feet	—
Furniture	—	—	—	—	4 cases

* 10,308 lbs. constructively warehoused.

† 254 gallons for the troops free.

Custom-house, July 8, 1845.

ROBERT R. TORRENS, Collector.

JAMES LAFFER, Warehouse-keeper.

Deliveries of Bonded Goods during the Quarter ending 5th July.—We subjoin a comparison with the deliveries in the same quarter last year:—

	Quarter ending	
	June, 1844.	June, 1845.
Spirits, gals.	3,947	4,791
Wine, ditto	742	nil.
Beer, &c., ditto	12	nil.
Tobacco, lbs.	7,041	9,668

The falling off in the import of beer has been very remarkable, the quantity delivered in the two quarters previous to June, 1844, having been 8,450 gallons.

Immigration and Emigration.—The number of passengers has been much less during the last quarter than usual. Being the winter, or

stormy season, this was to be expected. The total passengers inwards were 383, and the total outwards 109, leaving a balance of increase during the quarter by immigration of 274 persons.

Exports and Imports for the Second Quarter of 1845.—We subjoin a comparison of these with the corresponding quarter of 1844:—

	1844.			1845.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Imports consumed in Colony	19,443	15	8	30,029	9	3
Ditto re-exported	2,511	8	6	4,376	18	0
Total imports	£21,955	4	2	£34,406	7	3
Exports produce of Colony	7,405	4	6	15,860	8	6
Imports re-exported	2,511	8	6	4,376	18	0
Total exports	£9,916	13	0	£20,237	6	6

We direct attention to a mistake committed in the Return of Exports. The copper ore is either 500 tons too much, or it is estimated at about £2 per ton in value, the latter of which is absurd.

AN ACCOUNT of all Goods, Wares, and Merchandise Imported into the Province of South Australia during the Quarter ending the 5th of April, 1845, with their Estimated Values, and Duties collected thereon.

Description.	Quantity.	Great Britain.	British Colonies.	Total.	Duties.
		£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s. d.
Apparel and slops	—	651 6	862 6	1513 12	75 14 1
Agricultural impls.	—	—	8 0	8 0	0 8 0
Ammunition, gunp.	125 lbs.	—	19 0	19 0	0 19 0
Animals, living—					
Horses	138	—	254 9 0	254 5 0	—
Beer, porter, &c.	6422 galls.	298 10	295 0	593 10	29 13 6
Billiard table ..	1	10 0	—	10 0	0 10 0
Books	7 cases	16 0	6 0	22 0	1 6 0
Boots and shoes ..	—	2 0	151 0	153 0	4 13 0
Boat	1	4 0	—	4 0	0 4 0
Brooms & brushes	11 cases	28 15	61 0	89 15	4 9 9
Beer engine .. .	1	—	6 0	6 0	0 6 0
Blacking	3 casks	—	7 0	7 0	0 7 0
Candles	1420 lbs.	46 0	38 0	84 0	5 10 0
Canvass & bagging	91 bales	386 17	274 5	661 2	33 1 3
Cider & perry ..	400 gallons	24 0	—	24 0	1 4 0
Cordage & rope ..	33 cwt. 1 lb.	25 5	49 0	74 5	3 14 3
Cotton wick .. .	8 bales	110 0	25 0	135 0	6 15 0
Coals & coke .. .	19 tons	—	14 10	14 10	0 14 6
Confectionery ..	3 cases	—	24 0	24 0	1 4 0
Corks	420 gross	—	45 10	45 10	2 12 6
Carts & carriages	4	—	36 0	36 0	1 16 0
China	—	—	10 0	10 0	1 0 0
Chocolate & cocoa	12 lbs.	—	1 0	1 0	0 1 0
Cheese	4½ cwt.	—	13 0	13 0	0 13 0
Clocks & watches	—	—	66 10	66 10	4 3 0

Free.

(Imports of South Australia, continued.)

Description.	Quantity.	Great Britain.		British Colonies.		Total.		Duties.		
		£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	£	s.	d.
Corn—Oats	53 bushels	—	—	5	10	5	10	0	5	6
Bran	30 „	—	—	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Oatmeal ..	600 lbs.	—	—	8	0	8	0	0	8	0
Flour	1600 lbs.	—	—	4	0	4	0	0	4	0
Pulse	—	—	—	89	10	89	10	4	9	6
Drapery	—	3979	12	1915	10	5895	2	298	2	0
Drugs	—	109	15	141	4	250	19	13	2	5
Earthenware ..	22 crates	93	10	151	0	244	10	12	4	6
Fruit—Dried ..	7689 lbs.	69	17	94	5	164	2	9	2	2
Fresh	38 bushels	—	—	340	10	340	10	17	0	6
Furniture	—	8	0	133	0	141	0	8	17	0
Grindery	42 packages	657	0	38	0	695	0	34	15	0
Glass, window ..	28 cases	—	—	58	0	58	0	2	18	0
Guano	15 tons	—	—	15	0	15	0	0	8	0
Hardware & cut- lery	13 cases	19	10	56	10	76	0	4	2	6
Hats, caps, & bon- nets	11 „	44	0	121	0	165	0	9	2	0
Hops	1580 lbs.	—	—	71	0	71	0	5	8	6
Hemp	9 cwt.	—	—	9	0	9	0	0	9	0
Hay	1 ton	—	—	3	0	3	0	0	3	0
Iron	4 tons 9 cwt.	—	—	37	0	37	0	1	17	0
Ironmongery ..	—	411	0	400	10	811	10	40	11	6
Nails	—	93	4	113	0	206	4	10	6	0
Leather	—	—	—	236	0	236	0	10	1	0
Lucifers	6 cases	—	—	78	0	78	0	3	18	0
Machinery	3 packages	175	0	15	0	190	0	9	10	0
Musical Instru- ments	—	60	0	15	0	75	0	3	15	0
Oil—Linseed ..	158 gallons	43	10	2	0	45	10	2	5	6
Olive	28 „	18	11	3	0	21	11	2	3	1
Oilman's stores ..	—	34	10	236	5	270	15	14	1	3
Pictures & prints	—	—	—	1	0	1	0	0	1	0
Plants, roots, &c.	—	—	—	9	0	9	0	—	—	—
Potatoes	—	—	—	8	15	8	15	0	8	9
Saddlery & harness	—	455	0	86	0	541	0	27	1	0
Seeds	—	5	7	3	10	8	17	—	—	—
Shot	12 cwt.	15	0	—	—	15	0	0	15	0
Spirits—Brandy ..	1553 gallons	25	0	365	10	390	10	0	6	0
Gin	796 „	15	0	150	0	165	0	—	—	†
Eau de Colog.	18 „	15	0	—	—	15	0	—	—	†
Geneva	340 „	—	—	50	0	50	0	—	—	†
Rum	216 „	—	—	47	0	47	0	41	12	0
Whiskey ..	1652 „	—	—	300	0	300	0	—	—	†
Cordials ..	1 „	—	—	1	0	1	0	1	0	8
Stationery	48 packages	271	8	505	0	776	8	38	16	5
Stones, Mill ..	1 pair	—	—	20	0	20	0	1	0	0
Sugar—Refined ..	311 c. 1qr. 13 lbs.	—	—	665	0	665	0	33	5	0
Brown	4769 c. 2q. 9 lbs.	—	—	4242	2	4242	2	212	2	1
Skins & furs ..	—	—	—	124	10	124	10	6	4	6.

* Free.

† Warehoused.

(Imports of South Australia, continued.)

Description.	Quantity.	Great Britain.	British Colonies.	Total.	Duties.
		£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s. d.
Spices.. . . .	1533 lbs.	—	27 15	27 15	2 14 6
Specimens .. .	1 case	—	30 0	30 0	— †
Salt	25 tons	—	38 0	38 0	1 18 0
Sago	2756 lbs.	—	11 10	11 10	1 3 0
Soap	96 cwt.	—	96 0	96 0	4 16 0
Tea	12,542 lbs.	303 0	111 8	414 8	20 14 6
Tobacco, manu- factured .. .	17,744 lbs.	100 0	650 0	750 0	— †
Snuff	161 lbs.	—	10 0	10 0	— †
Cigars	2978 lbs.	—	914 0	914 0	2 13 2
Stems	6720 lbs.	—	98 10	98 10	4 18 6
Toys	4 cases	35 0	2 0	37 0	1 17 0
Turnery	3 „	1 15	16 0	17 15	0 17 9
Turpentine .. .	165 gallons	46 0	—	46 0	2 6 0
Tin—Plate .. .	20 boxes	—	35 0	35 0	1 15 0
Manufactured	2 casks	—	3 0	3 0	0 3 0
Timber—Deals, &c.	67,551 feet	—	307 12	307 12	19 17 0
Oars	99	—	35 0	35 0	1 15 0
Paling	4100	—	21 0	21 0	1 1 0
Felloes	950	—	6 0	6 0	0 6 0
Vinegar	1219 galls.	—	97 10	97 10	4 17 6
Woollen manufac- tures	—	27 0	—	27 0	1 7 0
Wines.. . . .	5784 galls.	614 10	526 0	1140 10	141 16 6
Total Imports		9348 13	18562 7	27911 0	1279 18 7

FROM THE WAREHOUSE FOR HOME CONSUMPTION.

Description.	Quantity.	Great Britain.	British Colonies.	Total.	Duties.
		£ s.	£ s.	£ s.	£ s. d.
Beer, porter, &c.	1564 galls.	122 2	—	122 2	6 2 1
Spirits—Brandy .	1962 gals.	201 2	288 12	489 14	1176 10 6
Rum	958 galls.	19 5	47 0	66 5	304 16 0
Gin.. . . .	450 „	15 0	97 10	112 10	180 0 0
Geneva	124 „	8 0	23 0	31 0	74 8 0
Eau de Cologne	9 „	4 13	—	4 13	5 12 6
Port entry on—					
Spirits of Wine	—	—	—	—	10 8 0
Whiskey	409 galls.	—	102 5	102 5	163 12 0
Wine	3051 „	64 0	185 0	249 0	37 7 0
Tobacco, manufac- tured	9959 lbs.	157 8	327 1	497 19	995 18 0
Snuff	1 lb.	—	0 5	0 5	0 2 0
Cigars	581 lbs.	—	145 6	145 6	145 6 5
Smalts	400 „	22 0	—	22 0	2 4 0
Furniture	1 case	6 0	—	6 0	0 12 0
		619 11	1215 19	1849 0	4382 17 1

Certified correct. ROBERT R. TORRENS, Collector.
Custom house, Port Adelaide, 2d May, 1845.

† Warehoused.

ABSTRACT RETURN of Immigration and Emigration at Port Adelaide during the Quarter ending the 5th April, 1845.

NAME OF PORT.	Immigration.			Emigration.			Totals.	
	Adults.		Children.	Adults.		Children.	Immigration.	Emigration.
	M.	F.		M.	F.			
Great Britain—								
London	67	45	32	15	3	1	144	19
Liverpool .. . . .	..	..	..	2	1	5	..	8
Leith .. . . .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
British Colonies—								
Cape Town .. . . .	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	2
Mauritius	3	..	..	..	..	..	3	..
Singapore	7	4	..	2	..	..	11	2
N. South Wales—								
Sydney	53	20	27	23	9	1	100	33
Melbourne	6	2	3	9	2	..	11	11
Portland Bay	14	2	1	4	..	..	17	4
V. D. Land—								
Hobart Town	81	29	47	19	..	..	157	19
Launceston	133	34	40	27	4	..	207	31
Circular Head	10	2	2	..	..	..	14	..
Western Australia ..	21	9	14	3	2	2	44	7
New Zealand	14	12	23	..	..	..	49	..
Foreign States—								
Siam .. . . .	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	3
Bourbon .. . . .	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
Totals	409	159	189	108	22	10	757	140

GENERAL SUMMARY.

	Immigrants.	Emigrants.
Great Britain	144	27
British Colonies	613	109
Foreign States .. . . .	..	4
Total	757	140
Excess of Immigrants	617	

ABSTRACT RETURN of Imports and Exports at Port Adelaide for the First Quarter of 1845.

IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Total Imports	27,911	0 6	Total Exports	50,791	18 7
Imports re-exported..	4,942	11 1	Imports re-exported..	4,942	12 1
Imports consumed in the Colony	22,968	9 5	Exports the produce of the Colony	45,849	6 6

ABSTRACT RETURN of Imports and Exports at Port Adelaide for the Second Quarter of 1845.

IMPORTS.			EXPORTS.		
	£	s. d.		£	s. d.
Total Imports	32,516	0 0	Total Exports	20,237	6 6
Imports re-exported..	4,376	18 0	Imports re-exported..	4,376	18 0
Imports consumed in the Colony	28,139	2 0	Exports the produce of the Colony	15,860	8 6

EXPORTS of Colonial Produce during the First Quarter of 1845.

ARTICLES.	Quantity.	Value.
Animals, living—Cows, 10; calves, 2 ..	....	£20 0 0
Sheep	150	85 0 0
Bacon and Hams	30 cwt.	93 8 0
Bark	95 tons 15 cwt.	305 0 0
Bread and Biscuit	108 cwt.	78 0 0
Butter	107 "	309 13 0
Cheese	50 "	134 2 0
Corn—Bran	208 qrs.	84 0 0
Wheat.. .. .	3412 "	3645 19 0
Flour	3266 cwt.	1855 10 0
Gum	1002 "	1081 10 0
Guano	2 "	0 10 0
Lard	6 "	15 0 0
Oil—Black	22 tuns.	430 0 0
Ore—Copper.. .. .	403½ tons.	6647 5 6
Lead	74 "	777 8 0
Onions	74 bushels.	17 6 0
Plants .. .. .	....	20 0 0
Salt	880 cwt.	103 10 0
Specimens—Natural History .. .. .	....	44 0 0
Stone—Marble .. .. .	....	10 0 0
Wine	26 gallons.	17 0 0
Wood .. .. .	....	10 0 0
Wool	593,710 lbs.	30039 15 0
Whalebone	4 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lbs.	25 10 0
		£45849 6 6

EXPORTS of Colonial Produce for the Quarter ending July 5, 1845.

ARTICLES.	Quantity.	Value.
		£ s. d.
Alkali	5 cwt.	1 0 0
Bacon and Hams	12 "	17 0 0
Beer	2 gallons.	0 10 0
Bark	12 tons 19 cwt.	50 0 0
Corn—Barley	25½ qrs.	30 0 0
Bran	65½ "	28 0 0
Oats	108½ "	93 0 0
Wheat	3843½ "	4372 8 6
" Flour	264 tons 19 cwt.	2374 0 0
Bread and Biscuit	21 tons.	260 0 0
Butter	23 cwt.	131 0 0
Cheese	5 tons.	254 0 0
Gum	231 tons 19 cwt.	4823 10 0
Jam .. .. .	....	3 0 0
Machinery (Model of Reaping Machine) .. .. .	....	1 0 0
Ore—Copper	69 tons.	1377 0 0
Lead	7 tons 9 cwt.	62 0 0
Potatoes	3 "	15 0 0
Specimens—Natural History .. .. .	....	35 0 0
Seeds .. .. .	....	2 0 0
Slates	1500	8 0 0
Salt	103 tons.	398 0 0
Timber, 2225 staves, 500 spokes, 107 felloes .. .. .	....	15 0 0
Wool	31,926 lbs.	1510 0 0
		15860 8 6

Certified correct.

ROBERT R. TORRENS, Collector.

If we except the article of wool, the whole of the remainder may be looked upon as articles of export, of which four years ago scarcely any one in the Colony dreamed. Nay, two years ago, who would have dreamed of our export of lead and copper ore equalling in amount our export of wool? And yet such an equalisation is rapidly approaching. In one quarter alone, the estimated value of the ore is £7,424 13s. 6d., and for the next three quarters we have little doubt of its far exceeding the present proportion. Besides, who can tell what other hidden riches may not yet be discovered? For our parts, we are of none of the most sanguine temperament; but we should be blind to the most obvious of facts, did we not observe in these unexpected additions to the articles of Colonial export growing indications of Colonial prosperity.

If anything were wanting beyond what the Government furnishes in these periodical returns, in connexion with imports and exports, it is a weekly return of the import and export of flour and grain at Port Adelaide. This is regularly furnished in Launceston and Hobart Town,

and might be attended with advantage here. As a corn-exporting Colony, South Australia is now looked to with intense interest in the surrounding Colonies, and it is desirable, both for their sakes and for that of the Colony, that as full particulars of the state of this trade as possible should be published once a week, or once a fortnight at farthest.

The cargo of one vessel alone, the "Isabella Watson," which cleared out from Adelaide in the early part of June, abundantly confirms all the pretensions of the Colony to the confidence and regard of the British public. The "Isabella Watson" was too late in the season to export much wool freight, and the small number of bales, 124, shipped by her is greater than could have been anticipated; her cargo is principally, therefore, a "dead weight" one; of wheat there were 2,162 bags on board, including a quantity of seed corn specially ordered by English agriculturists. The quantity of gum was very large, being contained in 1,349 casks and cases of various sizes, and valued at upwards of £10,000. Exclusive of minerals, bark, staves, spokes, and felloes, &c. shipped in bulk, the cargo comprises 3,722 packages, the contents of which, with a slight exception, have been produced in the Colony.

Lastly, we may allude to the opening of the Port, the news of which was announced in our last Number.

A very important meeting of the principal citizens and settlers was held at the Supreme Court-house, Adelaide, on the 12th July, to agree upon an address to his Excellency Governor Grey, expressive of the gratification afforded and the bright prospects opened to the Colonists by the recent Act which had emancipated the Ports of the Province.

The following passages are from that address :—

"Seeing the eminent success which has attended similar liberal administrative measures in other parts of the globe, particularly in the British Colonies of Singapore and the Cape of Good Hope, we fully anticipate for your Excellency's recent Act the entire approval and gracious confirmation of our beloved Sovereign; whilst we are fully persuaded that as respects the influence of your Excellency's highly popular measure of fiscal enfranchisement upon the Colonial Finances, the results will be fully confirmatory of the soundness of your policy.

"Blessed with a fruitful soil, a genial climate, incalculable natural capabilities, with moral elements and powers, and peculiar constitutional exemptions, for which the Colonists cannot be sufficiently thankful, the Province of South Australia is at length fulfilling the fond predictions of its founders, and will indeed become 'one of the brightest gems in the imperial diadem of Britain,' an object worthy of a pure and exalted ambition."

THE MAHOGAN TREE OF HONDURAS.

WE extract from the Honduras Almanac, which was published in Belize in the year 1827, a concise and familiar account of the difficulties to be surmounted by the cutters of the mahogany tree, a representation of which forms the crest over the armorial bearings of this settlement.

This tree cannot be excelled in magnificence and grandeur of appearance by any of the known productions of the earth of its class, and could the largest of the oak, which species is usually called the King of the Forest, be exhibited in competition, it would dwindle to insignificance in the comparison; the enormous size and height of the trunk, the uncommon spread of the branches, the space of ground occupied by the roots, all together convey to the mind the idea that it was destined by nature for the use of a race of more colossal proportion than the present; the ingenuity and perseverance of man has, however, obviated all the difficulties, and reduced the almost apparent impossibility of appropriating to his use a tree which, it would appear, has by nature been made of too great a size to be brought within his power. Commerce has also made mahogany, from being an article scarcely known, to be one of necessity throughout Europe, but more particularly in Great Britain.*

It becomes almost impossible to give the more minute circumstances attending the growth of this valuable and much-used tree, as its progress to maturity is scarcely perceptible within the life of man; but as far as our limited observation will allow us to form an opinion, not less than an average period of *two hundred years* can be allowed as the time of its coming to full growth or fit for cutting.

Various and differing are the conjectures relative to the first use, discovery, and introduction to Britain of this beautiful wood, nor is it within the limits of such a sketch as this to remark upon their accuracy; we therefore reject all accounts that appear speculative, and confine ourselves to such as are authenticated. Its first discovery was, therefore, by the carpenter on board of one of Sir Walter Raleigh's vessels, when he put into some harbour in the Island of Trinidad in the year 1595, who, having occasion to go on shore to cut some pieces of timber, required for work to be done on the ship that he belonged to, brought on board a quantity of this wood, which, on being worked from the raw state, exhibited, to the astonishment of all who saw it, that beautiful natural variety of appearance which no ingenuity of art can equal.

* At Vol. iii. No. 9, will be found an interesting paper on the Mahogany Trade and Statistics of the Settlement of Honduras.

The first use to which mahogany was applied in England arose from a circumstance purely accidental, and was appropriated to the making of a box for holding candles. Dr. Gibbons, an eminent physician, in the latter end of the 17th or beginning of the 18th century, had a brother a West India Captain, who brought over some planks of this wood as ballast, but was not aware of its value. As the Doctor was then building a house in King Street, Covent Garden, his brother thought they might be of service to him; but the carpenters finding the wood too hard for their tools, they were laid aside as useless. Soon after Mrs. Gibbons wanting a candle-box, the Doctor called on his cabinet-maker, to make him one of some wood that lay in his garden. Wallaston, the cabinet-maker, on cutting it up also complained that it was too hard; the Doctor said that he must get stronger tools. The candle-box was, however, made, and highly approved of, insomuch that the Doctor then insisted on having a bureau made of the same wood, which was accordingly done, when the fine colour, beautiful polish, &c. were so pleasing that it became an object of curiosity, and he invited all his friends to come to see it,—among them was the Duchess of Buckingham. Her Grace begged some of the same wood from Dr. Gibbons, and employed Wallaston to make her a bureau also, on which the fame of mahogany became general. Thus, from a circumstance in itself so trivial has emanated a most extensive branch of British commerce; and as the cutting and preparing of the mahogany is a matter which has been hitherto passed unnoticed by all historians, we trust that a brief narrative may be here acceptable to our readers.

The season for cutting the mahogany usually commences about the month of August. The gangs of labourers employed in this work consist of from twenty to fifty each, but few exceed the latter number. They have a conductor, who is styled the captain. Each gang has also one person belonging to it, termed the huntsman—he is generally selected from the most intelligent of his fellows, and his chief occupation is to search the woods, or, as it is called in this country, the bush, to find labour for the whole. Accordingly, about the beginning of August, the huntsman is despatched on his important mission, and if his owner be employed on his own ground, that is seldom a work of much delay or difficulty. He cuts his way through the thickest of the woods to some elevated situation, and climbs the tallest trees he finds, from which he minutely surveys the surrounding country. At this season the leaves of the mahogany tree are invariably of a yellow reddish hue, and an eye accustomed to this kind of exercise can, at a great distance, discern the places where the wood is most abundant. He now descends, and to such places his steps are directed, and, without compass, or other guide than what observation has imprinted on his recollection, he never fails to reach the exact spot to which he aims. On some occasions no ordinary stratagem is necessary to be resorted to by the huntsman to prevent others from availing themselves of the advantage of his discoveries; for if his steps be traced

by those who may be engaged in the same pursuit, which is a very common thing, all his ingenuity must be exerted to beguile them from the true scent. In this, however, he is not always successful, being followed by those who are entirely aware of all the arts he may use, and whose eyes are so quick that the lightest turn of a leaf or the faintest impression of the foot is unerringly perceived—even the dried leaves which may be strewed upon the ground often help to conduct to the secret spot,—and it consequently happens that persons so engaged must frequently undergo the disappointment of finding an advantage they had promised to themselves seized on by others. The hidden treasure being, however, discovered, the next operation is the felling of a sufficient number of trees to employ the gang during the season. The mahogany tree is commonly cut about ten or twelve feet from the ground, a stage being erected for the axe-man employed in levelling it; this, to an observer, would appear a labour of much danger, but an accident rarely happens to the people engaged in it. The trunk of the tree, from the dimensions of the wood it furnishes, is deemed the most valuable; but for purposes of an ornamental kind, the limbs, or branches, are generally preferred, the grain of them being much closer and the veins more rich and variegated.

A sufficient number of trees being now felled to occupy the gang during the season, they commence cutting the roads, which may fairly be estimated at two-thirds of the labour and expense of mahogany cutting. Each mahogany work forms in itself a small village on the bank of a river,—the choice of situation being always regulated by the proximity of such river to the mahogany intended as the object of future operations.

In the arranging and appearance of the habitations much rural taste is often displayed, and it is highly gratifying to the curious to remark the different modes peculiar to the several nations or tribes of Africa, as also the improvement introduced by European experience in the construction of the houses, among which the proprietor's residence, with storehouses, cattle-sheds, &c., invariably form a conspicuous figure—those of the different labourers being usually of more humble appearance, but all built of the same material, which the surrounding country affords in abundance. We have frequently seen houses of the kind completed in a single day, and with no other implement than the axe; consequently every workman is capable of performing the labour required to build his own dwelling. After completing this establishment, a main road is opened from it, in as near a direction as possible to the centre of the body of trees so felled, into which branch or wing roads are afterwards introduced. The ground through which the roads are to run being yet a mass of dense forest, both of high trees and underwood, they commence by clearing away the latter description with cutlasses, which, although in appearance a slender instrument, yet from the dexterity with which it is used, answers the purpose admirably. This labour is usually performed by task-work, of one hundred yards each man per day, which expert workmen will complete

in six hours. The underwood being now removed, the larger trees are then cut down by the axe, as even with the ground as possible, the task being also at this work one hundred yards per day to each labourer, although this is more difficult and laborious, from the number of hard woods growing here, which, on failure of the axe, are removed by the application of fire. The trunks of these trees, although many of them valuable for different purposes, such as bullet-tree, ironwood, redwood, sapodilla, &c., are thrown away as useless, unless they happen to be adjacent to some creek or small river which may intersect the road; in that case they are applied to the constructing of bridges across the same, which are frequently of considerable size, and require great labour to make them of sufficient strength to bear such immense loads as are brought over them. The quantity and distance of road to be cut each season depend on the situation of the body of mahogany trees, which, if much dispersed or scattered, will increase the labour and extent of road-cutting; and it not unfrequently occurs, that miles of road, and many bridges, are made to a single tree, and that may ultimately yield but one log. The roads being cleared of all the brushwood, still require the labour of hoes, pickaxes, and sledge-hammers, to level down the hillocks and to break the rocks, also such of the remaining stumps as might impede the wheels that are hereafter to pass over them. The roads being now in a state of readiness, which may generally be effected by the month of December, the cross-cutting, as it is technically called, commences; this is merely dividing crosswise, by means of the saws, each mahogany tree into logs, according to their length; and it often occurs, that while some are but long enough for one log, others, on the contrary, will admit of four or five being cut from the same trunk or stem, the chief guide for dividing the trees into logs being to equalise the loads the cattle have to draw, and prevent their being overburthened; consequently, as the trees increase in thickness, so the logs are reduced in length. This, however, does not altogether obviate the irregularity of the loads, and a supply of oxen is constantly kept in readiness to add to the usual number, according to the weight of the log; this becomes unavoidable, owing to the very great difference of size of the mahogany trees, the logs taken from one tree being about 300 feet, while those from the next may be as many thousands; but the largest log ever cut in Honduras was of the following dimensions:—length, 17 feet; breadth, 57 inches; depth, 64 inches; measuring 5,168 superficial feet, or 15 tons weight. For bringing to view this extraordinary specimen of the production of nature, we are indebted to the persevering exertion and ingenuity of Charles Craig, Esq. an eminent and experienced mahogany cutter.

The sawing being now completed, the logs are separated one from the other, and placed in whatever position will admit of the largest square being formed, according to the shape which the end of each log presents, and is then reduced, by means of the axe, from the round or natural form, into the square: although some of the smaller logs are brought out in the round, yet, with the larger description, the making them square is essential, not only to lessen their weight, but also to prevent their rolling

on the truck or carriage. We now reach the month of March, when all the preparation before described is, or ought to be, completed—when the dry season, or time of drawing down the logs from the place of their growth, commences; which process can only be carried on in the months of April and May, the ground being all the rest of the year too soft to admit of a heavily-laden truck passing over it without sinking; and although the rains usually terminate about February, yet, from the ground being so soaked with rain, the roads are seldom firm enough for use till the first of April. The mahogany cutter's harvest may be at this time said to commence, as the result of his season's work depends upon a continuance of the dry weather, for a single shower of rain would materially injure his roads. It is, therefore, necessary that not a moment should be lost in drawing out the wood to the river. The number of trucks worked is proportioned to the strength of the gang, and the distance generally from six to ten miles. We will, for example, take a gang of forty men, capable of working six trucks, each of which requires seven pair of oxen and two drivers, sixteen to cut food for the cattle, and twelve to load or put the logs on the carriages; which latter usually take up a temporary residence somewhere near the main body of the wood, it being too far to go and return each day to the river-side, or chief establishment. From the intense heat of the sun, the cattle would be unable to work during its influence; consequently they are obliged to use the night-time in lieu of the day, the sultry effects of which it becomes requisite to avoid. The loaders, as before mentioned, being now at their station in the forest, the trucks set off from the barquadier about 6 o'clock in the evening, and arrive at their different places of loading about 11 or 12 o'clock at night. The loaders, being at this time asleep, are warned of the approach of the trucks by the cracking of the whips carried by the cattle-drivers, which are heard at a considerable distance; they arise and commence placing the logs upon the trucks, which is done by means of a temporary platform laid from the edge of the truck to a sufficient distance upon the ground, so as to make an inclined plane, upon which the log is gradually pushed up from each end alternately. Having completed their work of loading all the trucks, which may be done in three hours, they again retire to rest till about 9 o'clock next morning. The drivers now set out on their return, but their progress is considerably retarded by the lading; and although well provided with torchlight, they are frequently impeded by small stumps that remain in the road, and which would be easily avoided in daylight; they, however, are in general all out at the river-side by 11 o'clock next morning, when, after throwing the logs into the river—having previously marked them on each end with the owner's initials—the cattle are fed,—the drivers breakfast and retire to rest until about sunset, when they feed the cattle a second time, and yoke in again.

Thus goes on the routine of trucking during the season, the loaders being employed in the interim preparing the logs for the return of the trucks.

Nothing can present a more extraordinary appearance than this process of trucking, or drawing down the mahogany to the river. The six

trucks will occupy an extent of road of a quarter of a mile; the great number of oxen—the drivers half naked (clothes being inconvenient from the heat of the weather and clouds of dust) and each bearing a torchlight—the wildness of the forest scenery—the rattling of chains—the sound of the whip echoing through the woods—then all this activity and exertion so ill corresponding with the silent hour of midnight, makes it wear more the appearance of some theatrical exhibition, than what it really is, the pursuit of industry which has fallen to the lot of the Honduras woodcutter.

About the end of May the periodical rains again commence. The torrents of water discharged from the clouds are so great as to render the roads impassable in the course of a few hours, when all trucking ceases—the cattle are turned into the pasture—and the trucks, gear, tools, &c., are housed.

The rain now pours down incessantly till about the middle of June, when the rivers swell to an immense height; the logs then float down a distance of 200 miles, being followed by the gang in pitpans (a kind of flat-bottomed canoe) to disengage them from the branches of the overhanging trees, until they are stopped by a boom placed in some situation convenient to the mouth of the river. Each gang then separates its own cutting, by the marks on the ends of the logs, and forms them into large rafts, in which state they are brought down to the wharves of the proprietors, where they are taken out of the water and undergo a second process of the axe to make the surface smooth; the ends, which frequently get split and rent, by being dashed against rocks in the river by the force of the current, are also sawed off, when they are ready for shipping.

The average expense of mahogany cutting is usually estimated at £100 Honduras currency, or about £70 sterling, each labourer, per annum, independent of the capital sunk in the purchase of the works, cattle, trucks, gear, craft, tools, &c.

THE INDIAN GIRL'S BURIAL.

"In the city of Montrose, Wisconsin Territory, the only daughter of an Indian woman, of the Sac tribe, died of lingering consumption at the age of eighteen. A few of her own race, and a few pale faces, were at the grave; but none wept, save the poor mother."

A voice among the prairies—
 A cry of woman's woe,
 That wingeth with the autumn blast,
 All fitfully and low;
 It is a mother's wailing—
 Hath earth another tone,
 Like that with which a mother mourns
 Her lost—her only one?

Pale faces gather round her ;
 They mark the storm swell high
 That rends and wrecks the tossing soul,
 But their cold blue eyes are dry.
 Pale faces gazed upon her,
 As the wild winds caught her moan,—
 But she was an Indian mother,
 So she wept her tears alone.

Long o'er that wasted idol
 She watch'd, and toil'd, and pray'd,
 Though every dreary dawn reveal'd
 Some ravage Death had made ;—
 Till the fleshless sinews started,
 And Hope no opiate gave,
 And hoarse and hollow grew her voice.—
 An echo from the grave.

She was a gentle creature,
 Of raven eyes and tress,
 And dove-like were the tones that breathed
 Her bosom's tenderness,—
 Save when some quick emotion
 The warm blood strongly sent
 To revel in her olive cheek,
 So richly eloquent.

I said, Consumption smote her,
 And the healer's art was vain,—
 But she was an Indian maiden,
 So none deplored her pain :—
 None, save that widow'd mother,
 Who by her open tomb
 Is writhing, like the smitten wretch
 Whom judgment marks for doom.

Alas! that lonely cabin,
 That bed beside the wall,
 That seat beneath the mantling vine,
 They're lone and empty all.
 What hand shall pluck the tall green corn,
 That ripeneth on the plain,
 Since she for whom the board was spread
 Must ne'er return again?

Rest, rest, thou Indian maiden,
 Nor let thy murmuring shade
 Grieve that those pale-brow'd ones with scorn
 Thy burial rite survey'd.
 There's many a king, whose funeral
 A black-robed realm shall see,
 For whom no tear of grief is shed—
 Like that which falls for thee.

Yea, rest thee, forest maiden,
 Beneath thy native tree—
 The proud may boast their little day,
 Then sink to dust like thee ;
 But there's many a one, whose funeral
 With nodding plumes may be,
 Whom nature nor affection mourn
 As here they mourn for thee.

AUSTRALIAN SKETCHES.

BY THOS. M'COMBIE, ESQ.

No. IV.—MELBOURNE AND NEW TOWN, PORT PHILLIP.

READER, if you are a resident in the Old World, I am about to take a liberty. I will, in imagination, transport you over the dreary and interminable seas which separate you from the New World—the gay and bright regions of unending sunshine in Australia.

You will, therefore, suppose yourself to be standing with your cicerone upon a rising ground close to the already-important town of Melbourne. This is designated by the inhabitants “The Flagstaff;” the Signal Station being within a few paces of where you stand.

The prospect which meets your gaze in every direction is as beautiful and diversified as the most passionate lover of fine scenery could desire to look upon. The first object which will most likely command your admiration is the Bay; the clear shining waters of which spread out to a great distance: it is more than a mile from where you stand, but from the commanding situation, which lessens the distance to the eye, its dancing waves appear to roll to your feet. The Bay forms an inlet, or smaller bay, known as Hobson's Bay, upon the opposite side of which stands Williamstown, its white cottages glittering in the bright sunshine. This is a rising township, being upon the water's edge, and near where the vessels anchor, it is much resorted to by mariners; its appearance from this is very picturesque, as it seems, from the shape of the bay, to stand upon a narrow strip of land or promontory jutting out into the water.

The Bay of Port Phillip is one of the noblest that the sailor in his wanderings among strange lands visits; but, unfortunately, the entrance is hazardous to a stranger, on account of not being of sufficient breadth to navigate a vessel with confidence, and of the currents, which at times flow through it with such frightful violence as to cause the water to boil and hiss. There is, moreover, a dangerous reef which spreads some distance out from one of the “heads,” and to touch which would be certain destruction; the mariner, however, need be under no alarm for the safety of his vessel, as there are experienced pilots who will take him through this wild place. But many strange captains of vessels were all but frightened out of their senses, when they found themselves unwittingly in this cauldron between two frowning rocks; and little ceremony was used with their vessels if they attempted to enter with a foul tide and a light wind. Away they would go “to the right about,” and be whirled out to the open sea totally helpless, and glad, no doubt, to have escaped. Even when “the heads” are weathered in safety, the dangers are far from being over: on the contrary, they seem to threaten. There is a long intricate passage, known as the Narrows, where the mariner has to thread his way between two sand-banks, through a most

tortuous channel, where the water shoals in many places so quick upon him as to make it nearly impossible to get forward without a pilot, unless by mere good luck, as the vessel is a-ground before the sailors are aware of their danger. All these difficulties, however, are now obviated by the establishment of pilots, and the seaman may enter with as much ease as he would into any port in the world.

When the Narrows are passed, all danger is at an end. The bay now opens up, and the mariner is astonished to find himself in a waste of waters as complete and unbroken as if he were at sea; mile upon mile is passed, and he begins to think there is some mistake, and that he is scanning o'er his favourite ocean,—or perhaps the wind is foul, and he is knocking about indignant to be baffled in an inland sheet of water; at last he comes upon Hobson's Bay, after he began to despair of reaching it.

When the eye becomes fatigued with gazing upon the waters of the bay, you have but to turn your attention to the changing landscape. Rather more to the left is the town, spreading far and wide. There is nothing about its appearance calculated to excite much interest; it is more than a mile in length, and composed of plain and rather inelegant buildings of brick; but, when you reflect upon its almost magical rise, and that of the vast assemblage of human beings, there was seven years ago perhaps not one of them who had even heard of the place, you will bestow upon it a look of considerable curiosity. From nearly every quarter of the world have these men congregated, from East and West, and North and South; they came to seek their fortune, or perhaps to escape the dread of starvation at home. They are now amalgamated into one community—each member chasing fortune as eagerly, or as anxious in the pursuit of his own particular avocation, as if he had been born and reared in the place. Do mankind then so soon rend in sunder the ties of home, of country, of kindred? The heart is a strange study, and it is utterly impossible for man to find out its workings; for although every remembrance seems to have faded, we know not of the quick sigh and sudden tear, when any sudden event brings to mind other times, and scenes in which the actors were far different. And however fruitful and beautiful this adopted land, and however kind the friends he may have made—nay, however much he may have bettered his fortunes by the change, the emigrant or exile is at times made to feel a void and depressing languor at the heart. There hangs a fascinating mist over the home and friends of early years—each made warm by absence, all the wiles of the world cannot dissipate, and which even “love of money,” that “root of all evil,” is not able to dispel.

To the left of the town, but so close that it all but forms a part of it, is Batman's Hill, a spot of singular beauty. It is a small green hill of conical shape, and the object which generally strikes the eye of a stranger when entering the town. The river Yarra washes its base on one side, as it sweeps onward towards the bay. The ascent is rather precipitous on the side which is towards the river; but opposite to where we stand it falls gradually away by a gentle slope, until it reaches the

open plain beyond. The spot has a verdant look—the grass delicate and green—clumps of trees of “fairest hues” spread here and there in wild and irregular beauty. How inviting it looks from where we stand! and many an English Peer would give a third of his princely fortune for that spot to adorn his park. It is, in a word, a pure gem of nature, which gold could not buy, nor art imitate.

A little farther on is the commencement of a long strip of wet land, which beginning at the bank of the river, runs parallel with Batman’s Hill, and extends far beyond where we are standing. This extensive swamp would deteriorate very much from the perfect beauty of the landscape, were it not that the swamp is nearly always covered with water, which gives it all the appearance of a fine lake. The sun sets behind this sheet of water, and, as he radiates in parting splendour from behind that cloudy film, casts a purple canopy upon the water, so tenderly beautiful as to subdue the most worldly heart.

“Oh! to see it at sunset, when warm o’er the lake
His splendour at parting a summer eve throws;
Like a bride full of blushes, when she lingers to take
One last look of her mirror at night ere she goes!”

Beyond the swamp, the Willoughby Plains commence. These extensive plains are somewhat similar to Batman’s Hill, having a sprinkling of trees scattered here and there, in groups, after the manner of a gentleman’s park in England. The country, however, is irregular, presenting at times a long succession of green mounds: these will again disappear, and the country change its aspect. Instead of the mounds, the eye now rests upon extensive undulating flats, but with less timber. Beyond the Willoughby, but far, far away, so as at times to be indistinct, rise a lofty range of mountains, which beginning near Geelong, a township upon the bay, run hundreds of miles into the interior of the country.

The view on the other side of the town of Melbourne is also bounded by a lofty range, known as the Western Port Range, which stretches from the sea-side far inland until it closes upon another range, known as the Plenty Range. The lately-discovered District of Gipps’ Land lies beyond the Western Port Range; but it is next to impossible to penetrate into it from Port Phillip, as the range to be traversed is a dense forest of stringy bark and brushwood. The country between us and Western Port is one immense forest, the monotony of which, however, is broken by a succession of hill and valley at regular intervals. When the sky is cloudless, and the sun high and bright, these hills and valleys look of a swarthy hue, as the wavy ranges darken under the influence of the sun. This sight brings to remembrance the sylvan dales of merry Sherwood, the retreat of the famous Robin Hood, so celebrated in stories of the olden time.

On this side, and within half a mile of where we stand, although concealed by the forest, lies the township of Collingwood, which has sprung up of late years, and contains about four hundred inhabitants. Further on, upon the banks of the Yarra, is the township of Clifton. For many miles the Yarra is lined with villas and gentlemen’s parks:

it is a wildly beautiful stream, fringed with the yarra and mimosa trees; the last bears a small yellow flower, and overhangs the banks of the river for miles. These two townships have been built upon land sold by Government as suburban allotments, and many of the merchants reside in them, as the air is considered more healthy than in the very town.

Behind you is the unbroken forest, in all its natural solitude, which bounds the view in this direction to a quarter of a mile. The sun rises from amongst those lofty forest arches, and the early-riser may see him ascend in all his bright and untarnished glory. His coming is presaged by an unusual lightness in the clouds, "between the heavens and the earth," in the quarter from which he will appear; then a faint glimmer begins to creep along; and, lastly, a full sight of the lustrous orb is obtained, as he coyly presents himself to view—like a pure virgin, almost afraid to unfold her charms to the world.

We shall not dwell longer upon the scene, grand and magnificent although it be. It may justly be named the scenery of nature, being replete with all the wild and imposing beauties which impress the genuine lover of nature with such pure delight. The exile, however, while he admits its peculiar and surpassing beauty, is apt to quarrel with it for its solitude. He remembers his own land, where every nook teems with gay cottages, whose offspring bounded along in all the glee of youth, and who, go where he would, welcomed him with kindness; while here and there stood the comfortable farmhouse, and, perhaps, the castellated tower of some ancient baron, whose ancestors had taken no mean part in the Crusades, or in the civil wars of the olden times. And here, in this strange land, he may walk from sunrise to sunset and be alone with nature, and, save the lone cry of some wattle bird, or the croaking of the frogs and the chirping of the locusts, all else be still as the grave.

There is one spot which I have not mentioned, but which it is not my intention to pass over without giving it some notice. This is the burying-ground, which lies a short distance from where we stand. With the reader's permission, I will continue his cicerone, while we enter and have a look at the gloomy habitations of the dead.

The Melbourne burying-ground is of considerable extent, and enclosed with a high paling, which being painted of a black colour, helps to increase the melancholy and desolation of heart felt upon entering the resting-place of all that remains of so many of our brethren of mortality. Had the author of "Chapters on Churchyards" had it in his power to have viewed this spot before that talented work was given to the world, he would have added one more chapter to the book, of no ordinary interest. This burying-ground is of quite a different character from what an Englishman is familiar with in his own country, and partakes of the newness of everything around. It is at some distance from the town, and laid out in the midst of the primeval forest. Many trees still stand within its precincts, while others, which have been felled by some rude hand, lie mouldering on the ground, a spectacle nearly as melancholy as the graves over which they rest.

The town has been only a few years in existence, and yet the graves are numerous. The space enclosed may be ten or fifteen acres, and already a full third appears to be filled with graves. It is impossible not to feel sorry for the untoward fate of many who have laid their bones in this wild spot—many of them cut down in the heyday of youth, far from fatherland, from friends, and from home. Yet—

“After life’s fitful fever, they sleep well;”

and I would rather be laid here, with the free sky above and the open forest around, than be borne in empty pomp and enclosed in the gloomy vault of some ancient cathedral.

We enter by the principal entrance, which is opposite the town. There are few stones or monuments; and, in general, the grave is fenced with a neat wooden palisade, at one end of which is a slab of the same material, on which is inscribed a short notice of the name and age of the departed. One of the first which strikes the beholder is a plain marble stone, which stands between two of these enclosures, and which bears the following short inscription:—

In memory of
AURTHUR KEMMIS.
Died 8th Feb., 1842,
Aged 35.

The stranger would pass on, without bestowing any marked attention upon those simple lines: far otherwise, however, the conduct of the older settler in the land. They convey more to his heart than the most grandiloquent display of language. They speak of one who was beloved for his simple worth—a highly-respectable merchant, and a magistrate of the territory. He was, moreover, a man of strict integrity, who gave willingly, and who was a favourite with all for his unaffected manners and the urbanity of his deportment. Many a tear will fall over his grave from eyes that seldom weep, for all classes regarded his early fate as a public calamity; and his memory will long dwell in their hearts, and be blessed.—Rather higher, and a short distance from the last-mentioned grave, is the spot where rests one who was the spouse of a respectable citizen, likewise a merchant. There are many who will remember this lady, and bestow a tear upon her untimely fate, for she was beloved by all for her kind and gentle disposition, and her many accomplishments. Well, peace be to her memory! Those who knew her intimately, will not soon forget her.

And here I cannot help remarking, that many of the inscriptions in this burying-ground tell of early deaths. The place appears to have been unfortunate to the young; and many a youthful mother and wife, just entering upon the sacred ties, and many a promising and blooming son and daughter, have been swept from the face of the earth, leaving it worse than a desert to many. It is as if a man cunning in woodcraft should go into our forest, and with ruthless hand cut down the lovely trees, and leave only a waste, made more desolate by the ugly, jagged, and gnarled gum trees which he has allowed to remain to mock the lover of nature.

In the months of December and January, the climate of Melbourne is far from healthy; and many strangers of a delicate frame of body fall victims to a low continued fever, which is apt, in an especial manner, to attack them if but lately arrived in the Colony. It is hence a bad time to come, and emigrants should so order it as to arrive about the month of April, when the weather has become cold. They can, by doing so, have all their plans formed and be settled in the place before the warm season and the hot weather set in, and become in a measure habituated to the climate. More depends upon this than one unacquainted with the subject would suppose; and although it has often happened that a whole ship-load of emigrants arriving in the warm weather have been seized with disease, it has rarely been the case that any inconvenience has been occasioned to one of their number when they came into port while the weather was cold.

Many a case of real and heart-rending misery have I witnessed amongst these poor emigrants. I am more prone to dwell upon what is gloomy and sombre in the world, than to look upon the sunny side. Being unfortunately of rather a melancholy temperament, I love to dream away the short span of existence amidst churchyards, or anything which excites the same gloomy feelings, rather than to mingle with the world. I have long since lost all relish for much communion with those engaged in the race of fashion, and have little interest in their bickerings and jealousies:—I would, in a word, at any time prefer the house of mourning to the house of mirth.

At the time when the emigrants arrived with such rapidity, that great as the demand for labour in Australia is, it was impossible to find them employment, many of them lived in tents. I had many walks among these poor creatures, and it was heart-rending to hear their complaints. Because situations could not at once be procured for them all, they considered they had been deceived and entrapped; and they declaimed against those who had thus basely acted towards them, with no ordinary virulence.

I one day met an acquaintance, a surgeon, who had been attending professionally on some of the emigrants. As he was a person of no ordinary intelligence, I had great pleasure in his society, and was glad to meet him upon all occasions. He informed me of a case which had come under his notice, the recital of which awakened my sympathies in no ordinary degree. It was that of a young woman of good, or rather a respectable family, who had quitted her friends in some sudden pet, and come to the Colony as an emigrant. She was dying. I entered the tent with my friend in silence, and saw her stretched upon a miserable bed, her countenance flushed with fever, and talking in the most incoherent manner. I listened for a few minutes; every word revealed a world of woe, and spoke of the heart-sickness experienced by the home-sick exile. During the short time I stood by, she recovered a little, and glanced upwards, with a look of peculiar keenness, which is far from singular in high fever, as any who have witnessed the struggles of the sick and dying can bear testimony to, and likewise the almost marvellous celerity with which they will recover sense and recollection.

The poor girl gave one moan, and I heard her say, "Australia! ah, it has been a dear Australia to me!" Her grave is in a sweet nook to the left, sheltered by a yellow gourd.

- "Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the West wind's breath,
And stars to set—but all,
Thou hast *all* seasons for thy time, O Death!" •

How vividly do these beautiful lines of Mrs. Hemans start across the mind at observing that long line of humble graves, of different sizes and shapes. Many, if not all, contain the bodies of good Catholics, as is apparent by the simple cross, which, planted at the head of each grave by the friends of the deceased, in their eyes speaks more plainly of a good Christian, who depended upon that holy charm to guard him from the evil spirits of the world beyond the grave, than would the most lengthy panegyric. In this the ignorant Catholics have better taste than the same class of Protestants; and however much to be pitied for gross superstition, their simple faith in that symbol of their Saviour's sufferings touches the heart, while the lofty strain in which many of the mementos over the graves of uneducated Protestants has something like the same disagreeable feeling upon the mind which ignorant pretension always gives birth to.

A short distance beyond, and we reach a line of graves enclosed in a superior manner, by which we are led to suppose, what is in fact the case, that those who lie here are of a rank above any in this quarter of the burying-ground. Amongst these is one with a plain inscription, which reads thus:—

Sacred to the Memory of
CAPTAIN GEORGE STEPHENSON,
Commander of the "Georgina,"
Who died on his passage to Calcutta, June 21, 1841,
Aged 26.

This inscription is perhaps calculated to give rise to even more melancholy feelings than any yet noticed, as nothing more keenly awakens those warm sympathies which are coiled unseen about the human heart, than to hear of the master of a vessel dying in a foreign port. The separation of a sailor from his vessel is, perhaps, only inferior to that of a husband from his wife; and the ties which bind the captain to the ship under his command can only be broken on his part by death. It is thus, therefore, that searching the burying-ground of a foreign port, the inscription over the grave of the master of a vessel will seldom fail to start a tear, especially if he died in the prime of youth.

In this case, I have often fancied I could unfold a history of the life of this young sailor, which would be fraught with no ordinary interest. I have made many inquiries as to his personal appearance and manners, but have never, as yet, been fortunate enough to meet with one that knew him. That, however, is of little consequence, as I had already formed a mental idea of him: a generous, warm-hearted sailor, of handsome person and fascinating manners; the hope of his aged mother, and the pride of his family circle. Possessed of a cultivated mind, and a

chaste and refined taste, as well as of vast stores of information, acquired by reading when on his long voyages,—for young as he was, he had visited nearly every quarter of the globe,—he was a favourite, go where he would. The young adored him for his bright fancy and sparkling wit, as well as for the information he was always willing to afford of the sights he had witnessed in his various wanderings; and to a congenial mind, he could throw a veil of romance over the gorgeous magnificence of the Oriental world, which made the young look upon him as some bodily emanation of their own airy “day-dreams,” while he described the inhabitants of the chief towns of the Presidencies in British India, with the striking costume of each different race—Armenians, Parsees, natives of China and India, all mingling for purposes of traffic in the bazars, so famous for their gorgeous display and the costliness of their wares; the pomp of the merchants and wealthy civilians—the splendour of their open palaces, where the light carol and bounding footsteps of the dancer are heard in the clear cool evenings, which refresh the dwellers in those strange lands “when day has wasted her sultry fires.” What young heart does not love romance? And he has been listened to with intense pleasure; and many a brave youth, animated by his recitals, has wandered in quest of adventures into far lands—not a few also, like him, have long ere now laid their bones to rest in a distant land; and, perhaps, their relations have not even the melancholy pleasure of knowing the name of the spot where they lie.

But might there not be those who looked upon him with something more than admiration, and who would hear of his death with a sorrow beyond the “common woe” which all who knew him would feel at his untoward fate? Might he not have left a mother to mourn for his loss, who wound her every affection about her first-born? She had experienced much of woe, but love for her only child had been her antidote; when the world spoke of him in terms of commendation, she felt the tear start from her aged eyelid, and a thrill of joy and gratitude pass across her tottering frame, which solaced her for all she had suffered. Is it possible to conceive an anguish so poignant as that mother would feel, when a letter was put into her hands from a mercantile firm in the distant metropolis, informing her of her son’s death? The cold style of the letter increased her sorrow; and it ended by informing her how her son’s account stood with the firm, and the balance then due to him.

• This was the unkindest cut of all; it appeared as if she could think of paltry dross in the same breath with that of her departed child! “Your money perish with you!” she exclaimed, as, heart-broken and overweared, she laid her down to die.

And might there not be yet another who would feel the dispensation as acutely as the aged and forlorn parent? Might there not be an amiable and accomplished girl who had been betrothed to the handsome sailor? Perhaps, tired of wandering, he was to have wedded her on his return from this voyage; and how bright the picture she had drawn of the felicity to be enjoyed by both in their new state! In the privacy of her chamber, she had sketched the sweet secluded cottage where they should “live on through all ills till death;” she had even settled the

fashion of the windows, and the flower-garden where they would sit and dream away the time amidst books, and flowers, and music: unsophisticated and little acquainted with the world—of a quiet and rather melancholy temperament, and an intensely imaginative mind—she had founded her every hope of happiness upon this event; and whether in her airy day-dreams, or in the hardly more fanciful illusions which flitted around her couch at the hour of midnight, she had but one thought, one feeling—love for her sailor. When the intelligence reached her of his death, she would not for a length of time believe it. She thought it impossible that the chalice could be so cruelly dashed from her lips. Should she never behold her loved one more, and were the sun-bright pictures she had painted unreal? The world was to her but a void. She threw aside the robes in which she meant to have decked herself on the morning of her marriage, and donned in their stead the garments of woe; then, withering beneath the calamity, “she drooped and died.”

And he who was so tenderly beloved had not one friend to attend him in the long hours of sickness and suffering, when the veins beat quick, and the heart throbs, and the body aches with fever. Yet he was not all alone; he had called upon those he loved, until in fancy he saw them near him; and he blessed them as fervently, and received nearly as much consolation from their presence, as if they had been there bodily to minister to his dying wants.

It is impossible not to feel a chill at the heart upon reading of so many early deaths. In this burying-ground there cannot be less than a hundred inscriptions over the tombs of the departed, and they all speak of early deaths. How many a noble heart and superior mind may have once animated these lifeless forms! The world was perhaps considered too small for these bold, adventurous spirits; but here the last act of the tragedy ends. Many who rest here, perhaps, little expected to die so far from home, and be buried in the Australian forest; and that thought alone may have added to the bitterness of death. Some sudden whim, or a desire to see the world, may have taken them from their fatherland, with the full hope, however, of returning in a few years, and to lie with their fathers in one of the ancient and hallowed burying-grounds of England: for few, very few, leave home without a full intention to return; and his heart must be callous indeed, who, unless compelled by necessity, or to provide for a family, or some other very strong reason, could take his last look of his early home.

NEW TOWN.

COLLINGWOOD is a new township a little to the left of Melbourne. Its original name was New Town, and it seldom receives any other name from the inhabitants of the vicinity to this day. Some years ago, however, the Sydney Government created it into a separate township, and bestowed upon it the more sonorous name of Collingwood, by which name it is recognised in print, although it is more than likely that it will retain its original name with the inhabitants of those parts. Every

great Australian city has its New Town—Sydney, Hobart Town, &c. have their New Towns ; why not Melbourne ?

The greatest astonishment of a stranger upon entering either Melbourne or Adelaide is, at the great extent of the area of the town, which in Adelaide is about fifty times the superficial extent of a European town of the same population. The sages to whom the formation of the town was entrusted having, after lengthened calculations, settled the population of the town a century after to be something under the London of the present day, and determined to embody their names in those of the great thoroughfares of the future emporium and metropolis,—with this view each of the great men of those days had a large portion of the town laid out into imaginary streets, terraces, and parades, and named after himself, his lady, and children. This was one of the numberless absurdities connected with the formation of the town, and establishing the Colony. There cannot be a doubt but it has done a material injury to the trade of the town ; it has given it likewise, especially to the eye of a stranger, a want of unity and proportion, and betrays as much as a whole volume the insane expectations of the first colonists. The first colonists of the Port Phillip Territory were experienced in Colonial affairs, being chiefly from Sydney and Van Diemen's Land ; some had great experience in laying out townships ; so being laid out with more regard to prudence and common sense, Melbourne does not now present the same diffuse appearance as Adelaide ; and so rapid has been the advance of the town, that where not a house was one or two years back, is now built into spacious streets. The principal streets for business—Collins, Elizabeth, Flinders, and Bourke Streets ; and Flinders, Bourke, and Collins Lanes—are built in a style of uniformity which would not disgrace a town in England. In Collins Street—the Regent Street of Melbourne—on a fine day, when the beauty and fashion of the town are abroad, the beholder, delighted with the gaiety around him, might fancy he had got to England once again. The town straggles away to the East, and here the same uniformity of style is not in many instances observed ; small houses, inhabited by the lower orders of society, are, for the most part, to be seen, with here and there a princely dwelling towering above the little cots about. This part of the town, at the present day, all but joins with the boundary of New Town, and there can be little doubt but in a short space of time they will run into each other.

It is singular, but there is something about the locality of New Town which exerts a powerful influence over me, and impresses me with an uncontrollable desire to go to sleep. It is, indeed, a relief to escape from the continued clamour and bustle of Melbourne, to the quiet inanity of New Town. Nothing is heard in the former but quarrels and disputes regarding mercantile transactions—sales of town lots, country sections and stock ; drays stuck fast in the mud, drivers swearing and fuming ; and, worse than all, the unceasing clang of the auctioneers' bells, rung with a view to draw the attention of the casual passenger and the inhabitants of the neighbourhood to the sale proceeding, or about to proceed, inside the splendid mart, and to lay out their money

with the certainty of doubling it or trebling it in a week. To New Town is but a smart walk of five minutes, yet nothing can be more opposite and unlike than the two places. New Town is the dullest of dull places; everything around wears a drowsy, sluggish appearance; the inhabitants might be antediluvian, so different are they from their busy brethren of Melbourne: nothing is to be seen or heard; not a sound breaks the stillness of the sultry noon-day but the melancholy chirrup of the locusts from the adjoining forest; even the children and dogs are subdued into silence; and the latter, which constitute the nocturnal nuisance of the town of Melbourne, breaking the repose of the inhabitants, are never heard here. The tradesmen, as they ply their vocations in erecting a house or store, appear to have laid conversation aside upon entering New Town; they work on in perfect silence, like so many somnambulists; the sound of their hammers falls heavily upon the ear, as something unreal, something altogether at variance with the spirit of the scene.—The most finished surveyor would be completely puzzled to define the style in which New Town is laid out. The stranger looks in vain for regular streets; in many quarters all is confusion, for each of the inhabitants has built exactly to suit himself, without any regard whatever for the comfort and convenience of his neighbours. Some portions of the town present to the eye nothing but bewildering confusion; cottages of all sizes and shapes, set down without system or regularity. So far as we can judge from appearances, the sole aim of the builder, it would seem, was to make the experiment, in how small a space he could manage to cram himself and family. Every new-comer appears to attempt to outvie his neighbour; some of them have waxed so “beautifully less” as to be only rather superior to a dog-kennel in England, and far inferior to the most miserable receptacle for pigs which is to be seen there.

New Town boasts of three hotels, one brewery, and stores without number: in fact, the latter appear and disappear with extraordinary facility. Towards the end of the town, the houses are of a rather better description; there is some attempt at regularity in the formation of the streets, and the inhabitants seem a more respectable class. A great many of the houses, however, are empty, and this adds to the lonely desolation of the place. Its deserted appearance contrasts strangely with its busy brother; New Town has a shabby air of gentility, as if business was out of the question. The contrast is yet more striking, from its near proximity to Melbourne, the busiest of busy towns. The tenants of the various messuages quit so suddenly, that if the landlord himself were on the premises, ten to one but the occupier and his furniture would have disappeared in the night, without his being a whit the wiser. The truth is, the inhabitants of New Town do not burthen their establishments with many superfluities. The dwellers of even humble life in England would be surprised at how little furniture serves the turn of an Australian family. About twelve or one o'clock, the head of the family opens the door with great caution, to observe if he is watched; if no human being is nigh, he gives the orders to march; in a few moments, if all keeps quiet, he issues from the door with a bundle of bed-

clothes, and various other articles, tied up in a rug, and strapped across his shoulders after a very ingenious fashion. After him comes the mistress, with the stretcher (the Australian apology for a bed), constructed of a wooden frame, with canvass nailed across, after the fashion and upon the principle of a camp-stool; and from its folding and unfolding at pleasure it is very convenient, where space is of consequence. At the heels of the worthy couple trot one or two small ones, with a tea-kettle, gridiron, and a few small articles of crockery-ware. This is an Australian establishment. When establishments are moving in this manner, the only danger is in the start; once fairly over the door, and they set the landlord at defiance. If he proceeds against them in a court of law, they have nothing: most of them are swells out of luck, broken-down families—such of every class as have come to want by extravagance—too lazy to work, too proud to beg. I have long since settled in my mind, that it must be a losing game to hold house property in Collingwood—such as depend upon any income to be derived from that source will have a barren larder and empty pockets.

I have often pitied the poor idiots who are foolish enough to open stores or shops: like the other establishments, they appear and disappear with wonderful facility; their existence in the commercial world is very transient. The old colonists are too wide awake to attempt anything of the kind; they know too well the state of the pockets of the inhabitants. A stranger is very apt to be deceived. He beholds a large, and, as he fancies, rising township, with only a few trumpery little shops; he thinks, "what a fine speculation to open a store, and cut all these little people out!" He does not take any advice, because he thinks if his intentions get abroad some person will forestall him. With a cunning worthy of a better cause, he sets about fitting up a store, and opens forthwith. The New Town *coves*, so soon as they have an inkling of his intentions, crowd around him with the most fawning civilities; they inform him he is certain to have a good trade, and *so he is*. One informs him that such and such a person has lately come into the possession of a large sum of money and is very wealthy, although the very person may be notoriously an insolvent. Not to be outdone, the party so favourably mentioned gets into conversation with the would-be storekeeper about the very party who had spoken so favourably of him, and talks of the splendid sheep-station he purchased the other day; he is a wealthy man. Then says the storekeeper, "Wealthy?" "God bless you, he could buy all New Town." The storekeeper drinks in all this information with greedy ears. He thinks he is pumping the inhabitants, and finding out who are safe and who are not. The store is opened; the swells grow fat for the first quarter; before they might have been seen smoking an old black pipe, now nothing but Havannahs will serve their turn. Large bills are run up, and much is said about payment at the end of the quarter: the storekeeper looks forward anxiously to that period, when he may receive his money and recruit his stock. The long looked-for time comes at last; his goods are all sold on *credit*, and he goes round with his accounts. He makes his first call, and is received with extreme politeness at the threshold. He

delivers his bill; his customer yawns, takes it between his finger and thumb, and stuffs it into his waistcoat pocket. The storekeeper inquires when he may call again, and is informed he may call whenever he wants the money. He departs, but not before his customer has made many excuses for the dire necessity which compels him to depart without entering, but one of the family being ill, &c. &c. He calls again in a day or two; his customer saunters to the door as before. "I must try and get money now to purchase more goods, and I hope you will allow me to have that little amount," says the storekeeper. "Well, I will see what I can do," says the other, yawning and gaping vacantly to the sky, as if that would be a fit place to go and look for funds. The storekeeper calls and calls, until they begin to consider him a bore, and avoid him, or perhaps laugh at him. Enraged beyond measure, he goes and puts his claim into the hands of an attorney, where he learns, to his astonishment and mortification, the real character of his supposed good customers. He can get no money, for the best of all reasons—none of his wealthy customers could raise five shillings upon any emergency whatsoever. At last, when too late, he begins to see things in their true light; he has been the good Samaritan—keeping the town in the necessities of life for three months gratis—he is cleaned out, and, perhaps, under the necessity of shifting, like the others, for his living. The store is knocked up, and the inhabitants long for another new chum to afford them the necessary supplies on credit.

The place boasts of one small inn, known as the New Town Royal Hotel. The Royal Hotel is a very small building, built of weather boards. It has a small neat parlour, with a little box as you enter, by way of bar, upon the shelves of which are deposited about a dozen bottles of bad wine; there is, moreover, a cask of beer upon the tap, and the inhabitants come here to partake of that refreshing beverage. They shuffle into the aforesaid little box, and, without exchanging a word, produce threepence, and lay it before the face of the sleepy-looking landlord, from whom they receive a glass of beer; they then retire, as listless as if their minds were one complete inanity. It is the quietest and most retired place for an inn I have ever seen. The landlord appears more than half asleep. The likeness of some great man above the door has a sleepy look; the artist had been spell-bound at the time, and unconsciously painted the figure in a state of somnolency.—Many flash hotels have been started, but all have gone down, for the Royal is, and will continue to be, the favourite. Even with me, who am a temperance advocate, and have an antipathy to ardent spirits, it is a favourite, and I love to lounge inside, and shell out the copper coins to the grave, silent, and sleepy landlord. Many executions have been taken out against him, and his little stock has been two or three times sold. The creditors have long since found out that it is a losing game, as everything in the house does little more than half pay the expenses of the law courts for issuing summonses.

The next place worthy of notice is the New Town Brewery. This establishment is about ten feet by twelve. A number of small casks, set

ends up, contain the delightful beverage manufactured here in a state of preparation. Whether there be brewing coppers or not, I cannot say ; I never could see anything of the kind. Perhaps the New Town Brewery useth some household pot or pan, or other utensil, for the purpose.

• Sometimes a great man from Melbourne will take a house in New Town for change of air. If he be a quiet person, he may remain ; but if a gay, rollicking fellow, fond of pleasure and company, he very soon beats a quiet retreat : there is something in the loneliness of New Town which oppresses such worldlings, and this feeling they cannot overcome.

The houses are built of various materials—brick, brick hogged, weather board, broad paling, wattle and daub ; this last mode is the favourite with the lower orders of Irish, being so much more easily erected than any of the others. The head of the family forms the frame of the house ; the good woman with her children go out into the forest and cut down a sufficient number of twigs of the wattle tree : these are entwined by a very simple process into a wall, which is plastered on both sides by a thick coating of clay and sand, and a very comfortable dwelling may be made in this manner. Broad paling is wood split up into thin boards ; it is far from a bad substitute for cut wood, and the newly-arrived emigrant is loath to believe the Colonist who informs him the wood is split. I could hardly say whether broad paling, wattle and daub, or slabs, be the most commonly seen in the dwellings of the poorer classes of Collingwood. I am rather of opinion that the broad paling preponderates.

When I first came to Port Phillip, New Town was in the very hey-day of its fleeting popularity. Like my neighbours, I was to a certain degree bitten by the mania for buying land, and having bought several acre allotments, I began to build a fine house. When finished, I could neither sell it nor let it, as the tide of public favour had now set towards Richmond. I was obliged, therefore, much against my inclination at the time, to occupy it as a dwelling-house. As my daily avocations made it necessary for me to be in Melbourne by ten o'clock, I looked upon having to walk so far as one of the ills of life. I have long since become reconciled to the long walk, and have become so accustomed to the place, that I would not for any earthly consideration quit it, during the time I remain in the territory. I have my regular walks to and from town, and have so contrived it, that I take in all the leading thoroughfares in my progress. I have in this manner a source of never-failing amusement in observing the various changes that take place, and in speculating on the causes of flittings, and on the amount of *bona fide* income the landlord derives from such a house during a whole year. There is a cot tenanted by an ignorant labourer, who can neither write nor read ; separated by a thin partition merely, is a man in reduced circumstances, who has acted his part in the *beau monde*, figured in courts and camps, and sat down with kings and princes. Do not smile, good reader ; such as I have mentioned are to be found in New Town. Some, with a greatness of soul, and a nobleness of mind, have set to work, and forgetting what they have been, earn their bread

by the sweat of their brows. Others, alas! idle away their time, and instead of earning an honest living, by the meanest subterfuges and scheming they manage to eke out a scanty living. I knew a family, at one time, residing in New Town, whose connexions at home were of the highest rank, only kept from starving by the charity of a very poor individual. I pity from my very heart many a high-souled person, who having fled from want or the cold pity or charity of the world at home, arrives in the Colonies in dull times, and is obliged to fill a menial situation or starve. My heart has sorrowed for such persons, and been in great bitterness on their account: knowing the poignancy of their feelings, I have longed to clasp them with the arms of at least one friend in their misfortunes. None, however, may be ashamed to earn their bread in an honest, humble manner. Burns was but a plain rustic—the man breaks through in nearly every page of his works—his genius was of nature, natural. He was a sturdy advocate for the poor, and by bringing their good qualities so prominently before the world, placed them upon a far more respectable footing than before. Burns effected the same wonderful change in the feelings of the lower classes of Scotland which Cobbett effected in England: he rooted up the blind adoration which had been paid to rank and birth; he changed the whole current of the feelings of the lower orders, and made honesty and worth to be respected by all. The brave and intelligent Scottish peasant has Burns, in a great measure, to thank for his mental independence. Of his private character we know little or nothing; his public character is given in a few words—he was a man “gold could not buy.”

In the chances and changes of a Colonial life, they may yet reach an independent and respectable station in life; at any rate, they have that innate satisfaction which the knowledge of having acted honourably can only afford. They have lost all, but they have not lost self-respect.

RELICS OF THE CHARIB INDIANS IN THE ISLAND OF GRENADA.

THE curious Tourist will find an object well worth his loitering awhile to inspect, just below the Sugar-works on Mount Rich Estate, in the parish of Saint Patrick.

On a stone in the river are carved several hieroglyphical characters, the labour of the aboriginal inhabitants of this island. It is too well authenticated to admit of a doubt, that this neighbourhood was their only retreat, before they were ultimately driven into the sea, over the bluff “Morne,” a little below the present town, which is thence called “*Sauteurs*,” in commemoration of the sad catastrophe!

It is not known that anything else of the kind exists in the Colony, nor of any other relic of the Indians, excepting that there are to be found here and there, along the sea-coast, several heaps of shells: those are generally contiguous to the best fishing stations.

It is conjectured that the characters alluded to are emblematical of the final expulsion of the Indian tribe from these shores, and were intended to be the means of informing any one of their tribe who might perchance at a future period visit the spot.

Grenada, Nov. 24, 1845.

ANTIQUARIAN.

NOTES ON THE SANDWICH, OR HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

BY ROBERT CRICHTON WYLLIE, ESQ.

(Continued from vol. vi. p. 328.)

A General Register Office.—An institution of this kind is much wanted for the preservation of all title-deeds and other records affecting the possessions of lands, houses, &c. During the brief existence of the *British Commission*, an order was issued for the presentation of all titles and claims, disputes about which are a fertile source of complaint against this Government.

Nothing will tend more to general improvement and enrichment of the country, than laws and regulations establishing such a certainty and *fixity* of tenure as will give the occupants confidence in their possessions. The system of short leases in all agricultural countries is found to be injurious both to the tenant and the landlord. The superiority of Scotch farming is chiefly to be attributed to the greater length of leases granted there, than in the sister kingdoms. In Ireland, the baneful effects of the *tenant-at-will* system have been generally felt. With the view of introducing there a better order of things, a society has been formed in England, under the name of the "Irish Waste Land Improvement Society." In the Report for 1843, the Chairman, Colonel Robinson, made the following remarks: "I feel assured that if the landlords will let fair reclaimable waste lands on moderate terms, and be content to receive an increase of rent at fixed periods, in proportion to the Society's progress, the capital required to be invested by the Society would be small, with respect to the number of acres to be reclaimed; and tenants being admitted at very low rates for the first few years, to rise progressively afterwards, would find it to their advantage to hold farms under the Society, and by the rapid increase in the extent and value of their improvements and property, in combination with the more general improvements of the Society, become gradually and certainly in a condition to pay with ease to themselves such rents for their lands as would insure a good return for the Society's investment, and a desirable augmentation of income to the head landlord."

In illustration of the effect of such principles in improving the value of land, and increasing the property of its cultivators, the Chairman gave the example of the three following estates, viz. :

NAME OF ESTATE.		em Impr by Li do	impro by Te	na ert.	
		£	£	£	£
Ballanakel, taken in . . .	1838	200	13	19	0
„ improved in	1843	1367	334	394	137
Glencaske, taken in . . .	1838	1274	139	197	41
„ improved in	1843	2225	558	1267	448
Kilkerrin, taken in . . .	1841	137	2400	2200	500
„ improved in	1843	1440	2904	3160	678

Notwithstanding the extreme density of the population, there is a vast quantity of waste land, both in Ireland and Scotland, susceptible of improvement; and Lord Worsley lately declared in the British Parliament, that by the returns of the Tithe Commissioners, embracing only the lands where the tithes had been commuted, the waste lands in England amounted to 6,718,523 acres; and in Wales, to 501,815 acres.

Such, in the words of the Report, were the results of the principles of reciprocal co-operation and mutual benefit between landlord and tenant, upon which the reclamation and improvement of waste lands is conducted by the Society.

But it may be said, Ireland is an old and densely-populated country, and the same principles that work so beneficially there would not be applicable to the Sandwich Islands, the circumstances of whose population are so different.

To meet this objection, I give the following table, published by the *Canada Company* of London in 1842:

ABSTRACT from the Statistical Returns of the County of Huron, October 31, 1840—the Settlement of which was commenced by the Canada Company in 1828.

TOWNSHIP.	Population.	Families.	No means.		Families.	Under£10.		Families.	Under£50.	
			Present value of stock and improvement.			Present value of stock and improvement.			Present value of stock and improvement.	
			£	s.		£	s.		£	s.
Williams, E. C. R. . .	453	59	7325	10	..	..	..	24	3393	0
M'Gillivray	142	21	2233	0	1	376	15	6	1054	10
North Easthope . . .	544	27	2676	10	7	1515	15	37	5454	5
Downie	241	19	2761	5	6	682	10	8	1257	0
Ellice	208	9	2242	15	2	258	0	13	2090	5
South Easthope.....	389	26	3794	0	5	946	10	24	3996	15
Colborne	225	33	4462	0	1	74	0	2	242	0
Gore of Downie . . .	153	15	870	5	..	..	..	9	480	0
Usborne	138	9	1971	10	2	353	10	12	2232	15
Logan	9	..	..	..	2	67	5	..	..	..
Tuckersmith	342	30	5046	0	1	180	0	15	2159	0
Hay.....	60	6	649	5	..	..	..	3	517	5
Stanley	211	36	4438	15	3	277	0	16	1910	0
Biddulph	420	42	5255	5	13	2466	15	29	4020	0
Hibbert	39	3	260	10	..	..	..	4	388	10
Hullett	62	11	5512	0	..	..	..	1	80	10
Fullarton	46	4	343	15	1	135	0	1	198	0
Bosanquet	125	21	2391	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Goderich	1148	113	15315	10	17	3141	0	46	9548	0
Stephen	91	7	1576	15	..	..	..	4	1504	5
Town of Goderich . .	699	..	18330	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Williams, W. C. R....	17	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Mackillop	143	23	3031	0	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	5905	514	90486	10	61	10424	0	254	40526	0

514 Families destitute of any means on going on land, yet the present value of their stock and improvement is	£90,486 10 0
61 Families with means under £10	10,423 0 0
254 Families with means under £50	40,226 0 0
	£141,436 10 0
Value of stock and improvements made and possessed by individuals commencing with means varying from £50 upwards	£100,850 17 9
Total value of stock and improvements in the county of Huron, as per statement herewith	£242,287 7 9

Total population .. 5905

Goderich, Upper Canada,
18th Dec. 1840.

THOMAS MERCER JONES.

Now what is the plan at present adopted by that wisely-directed Company, to increase their own wealth, in compatibility with the greatest possible degree of encouragement to immigrants? It is the following, and well deserves the consideration of the rulers of these islands:

"To old settlers, emigrants, and others, desirous of purchasing lands in Canada West.—The Canada Company request particular attention to the various publications relative to their lands and settlements in that portion of Canada formerly called Upper Canada, in which they possess nearly *two millions* of acres, in the most advantageous situations, consisting of scattered Crown Reserves, in lots of from 100 to 200 acres each, of blocks varying from 1,000 to 1,200 acres, and of an extensive territory called the Huron Tract, containing upwards of 1,000,000 of acres in one block. The Crown Reserves are most advantageously situated, being distributed throughout nearly every township in the Province, most of them surrounded by old settlements and adjoining farms, long under cultivation, and are particularly suitable to those individuals who may have friends in any particular township whom they may wish to settle near. Of those lots lists will be found posted up in various taverns, stores, and post-offices in the neighbourhood, and may be had gratis on application at the Canada Company's office in Toronto. The blocks of land are peculiarly suitable to communities who may be desirous of settling near each other, as they can have land to any extent, undivided by strangers; and they are situated in the richest and most fertile portions of the Province, being in the London and Western Districts. Of those blocks, the particular attention of emigrants is directed to the Huron District, as it possesses advantages which render it particularly eligible to them, and in the compass of which a bad farm could scarcely be found. The inhabitants, amounting to about 7,000, are, with trifling exceptions, all from Great Britain and Ireland; so that they would find themselves surrounded by people of habits and feelings similar to their own, who would welcome them as countrymen. It has the advantage of excellent roads, and facilities of travelling to and from the older settlements of the Province, rarely to be met with.

It is bounded for 60 miles by Lake Huron; and at the confluence of the river Maitland with the lake, is situated the principal or district town of Goderich, where there is an excellent harbour. The population of this town is about 800, but as the district gaol and court-house are now completed, and the county declared a separate district, a rapid increase in wealth and prosperity may be reasonably looked forward to. It now contains several good stores or shops, mechanics, houses of religious worship, resident clergymen and good schools, where the higher branches of the classics are taught, as well as the ordinary branches of education. From Goderich, good roads traverse the country southerly and easterly; the former to London, distance 59 miles; the latter towards the head of Lake Ontario at Hamilton, distance 100 miles, on which are stage waggons running to Hamilton. The Canada Company are now opening extensive lines of road through the finest portion of the Huron tract, eligibly situated in regard to the older settlements, and communicating with the planked roads now under construction by the Government to Port Burwell and London. The prices of the Company's lands vary from 8s. to 15s. per acre. Some, from particular local advantages, are charged from 16s. 3d. to 20s.; but the average may be taken at 12s. 6d. per acre; payable by one-fifth cash, the balance in five annual instalments, with interest at 6 per cent. The Canada Company are anxious to assist such respectable settlers as may be desirous of proceeding with their families to the Huron district, but who may not have the means of paying the usual cash and subsequent heavy instalments; the Company will in consequence grant *leases for twelve years* for their lands, upon the lowest rate of rent possible, (to relieve the settler from any immediate cash demands upon him, which he may not like to pay,) at the expiration of which lease, and the punctual payment of the very small annual rent, commencing one year from the date of lease, the settler will *receive a deed* for the freehold of the land he occupies, without further charge. Under these leases no money is required down. The rents payable annually upon one hundred acres are these:—

At the end of the 1st year from signing lease	£2
2nd	3
3rd	4
4th	6
5th	8
6th	9
7th	10
8th	11
9th	12
10th	13 10
11th	14 10
12th	16 10

For one hundred acres, or about 22s. per acre,
upon a credit of 12 years, free of all interest .. £110

The settler leasing the lands may have a deed or freehold of the same, at any period, by paying the rents in advance, upon which he will be allowed a liberal discount. One great inducement which the Huron

district holds out to settlers, is the manufacture of potash ; and for this purpose no land in the Province is better if so well adapted, as it is entirely timbered with the best kinds of hard wood. A considerable pot and pearl ashery has just been established at Goderich, and new settlers may, therefore, have facilities for obtaining cash or store goods for black salts or potash. This advantage will be appreciated by all old settlers who understand the manufacture of those articles, and who have felt the inconvenience of being compelled to wait for a crop before they could obtain money or goods for their labour. The Huron district has been settled about twelve years, and during which period, although failures of crops have occurred in most other parts of the Province, scarcely even a partial failure has taken place in the Huron. The climate of the Huron is remarkably healthy—fever and ague being almost unknown, which is attributed to the numerous and excellent living springs abounding throughout the district ; it is the best watered portion of Western Canada. The centre of the Huron district is ninety miles south from the new government settlement in Owen's Bay."

Under such a system it is not surprising that there had been an influx of 7,000 settlers from the United States. Frederick Widder, Esquire, the agent of the Company, so informed me, by letter, dated Toronto, 5 September, 1842.

But from that fact, it is not to be supposed that the United States are to be reproached with a backwardness to encourage immigration. The very reverse has been the policy of the wise statesmen who have governed that great and growing republic, ever since its independence ; and generally speaking, the tide of emigration has been from Canada to the United States, and not from the United States to Canada. Under ordinary circumstances, settlers do quite as well in the United States as they can do in Canada or anywhere else ; but a temporary exception arose, under the derangement of the currency, and depreciation of all property, created by the policy of General Jackson, and it was mainly to that cause that Mr. Widder attributed the great emigration to Upper Canada.

While in Illinois and Missouri, in 1842, I found many of the farmers, who had beautiful and well-cultivated farms, complaining that they could find no adequate price for their produce, and that even the inadequate price obtained was paid in bank paper, of a mere nominal value, and that if such a state of things continued they would move off to Upper Canada.

I have reason to believe that that state of things no longer exists in the Western States, or that it exists only in a very mitigated degree.

It is only by the adoption of a liberal policy, more or less resembling the above, that all the British Colonies have prospered so remarkably. I have already attempted to show this in former pages ; but as I consider it of importance, that this Government should adopt the only policy calculated to improve its agriculture and increase its population, I here add the following authentic tables relative to grants of land by the British Crown, in North America, Australasia, and Africa.

NORTH AMERICA.

COLONIES.	Approximate statement of lands alienated previous to 1831.	Quantity of land sold from 1831 to 1838 inclusive.	Total amount of purchase-money.	Number of acres granted without sale.	Total quantity of wild lands remaining ungranted.
	Acres.	Acres.	£	Acres.	Acres.
Lower Canada....	12,000,000	371,015	67,233†	422,184	4,031,143
Upper Canada....	11,000,000	95,775	32,976‡	1,932,419	1,486,235
Nova Scotia....	5,000,030	{ 116,824	no returns\$	51,690	(surveyed)
Cape Breton....		{ 37,903	no returns||	166,765	6,510,159
New Brunswick }	3,500,000	694,180	140,035¶	133,343	13,982,250
Prince Edward's }	1,457,200	166	731	13,633	2,000
Island *.....					
Newfoundland....	not known	1,633	no returns	8,474	not known
Total	32,957,200	1,317,496	240,975	2,728,512	26,011,786

* 75 grants in one day.

\$ 1s. 5d. to 1s. 7½d. an acre.

† 2s. 10½d. to 6s. 3½d. an acre.

|| 1s. 11½d. to 2s. 9½d. an acre.

‡ 6s. 1d. to 9s. 11½d. an acre.

¶ 1s. 7d. to 4s. an acre.

AUSTRALIAN COLONIES.

COLONIES.		Lands alienated prior to 1831.	Lands sold from 1831 to 1838 inclusive.	Total amount of purchase-money.	Number of acres granted without sale.	Acres of wild land remaining ungranted.
				£		
New South Wales..	1831	3800000	no return	2597	258841	18000000
" " "	1832	....	20860	12509	15843	within the boun-
" " "	1833	....	39025	24956	14683	daries marked
" " "	1834	....	91399	41844	27861	out for settle-
" " "	1835	....	271947	80784	5271	ment.
" " "	1836	....	389546	126458	16132	
" " "	1837	....	370376	120427	6090	
" " "	1838	....	316160	118579	63360	
Van Diemen's Land		3800000	1489313	528154	408036	18000000*
Western Australia..		1500000	239207	104306	354745	12090476
South Australia....		none	22327	2194	723692	not known
		none	151611	259197	none	do.
Total		5300000	1802458	893851	1486473	30090476

The 18,000,000 acres were refuse lands, not worth anything scarcely.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

	Lands sold from 1831 to 1838 inclusive.	Total amount of purchase-money.	Number of acres granted without sale.
		£	Acres.
1831	The quantity of land is seldom stated; it consists mostly of old farms, or plots of ground for building, in or near old settlements.	928	2,484,311
1832		706	2,003,702
1833		1,307	725,323
1834		1,477	69,245
1835		1,443	1,075,133
1836		2,772	2,173,505
1837		7,851	8,084,295
1838		6,107	6,473,066
		22,591	23,088,583*
Received on account of sales of land prior to 1831.....		2,890	
Total		25,481	
Total quantity of wild land remaining ungranted, estimated at			34,000,000†

* The grants made during the years 1831 to 1838 inclusive have been of lands long previously surveyed for the parties, but the titles to which, from various causes, could not be completed before.

† Of the land remaining at the disposal of the Crown, much has been applied for by private individuals, and the grants are in progress of completion; but a great proportion is too rocky, mountainous, and sterile, to be fit for use; and how much of it could be made available for agricultural or grazing purposes, can only be ascertained by general inspection. The want of water, in most parts of the Colony, renders it extremely probable that very little, not already applied for, is worth the expense of measurement.

West India Colonies.—No returns for these have been yet published.

Sierra Leone.—Amount of purchase-money for lands sold, £585.

Mauritius.—Purchase-money received, £13,617. Waste lands, not alienated, about 100,000 acres.

Ceylon.—Lands sold from 1831 to 1838, 20,159 acres. Money received, blended in the general accounts. Acres granted, without sale, 13,671.

I have touched several times, in the course of my Notes, upon the subject, because I am deeply convinced that nothing will contribute so much to the greatness of the King, and the happiness of his subjects, as the establishment of wise laws relating to grants and leases of land.

I give the King and his Government full credit for the 5th, 6, 7 and 14th sections of the law or statute of the 9th November 1840; and the

sincerity of their good intentions for the welfare of the Hawaiian people, I am far from doubting; but I do think that the subject of the price and rent of lands, as it bears upon the industry, population, wealth and commerce of the country, deserves more consideration than appears hitherto to have been bestowed upon it.

In pressing this consideration so earnestly and so frequently, I have no other object than the honour and welfare of his Majesty, of his Government and people; and if all nations allow that the British system of colonisation is the best and most successful that has ever been tried, (and no better proof can be given than the stupendous growth of the United States on that foundation,) I may be permitted to think that a careful consideration of that system, in comparison with that heretofore or now existing in these islands, is pre-eminently worthy of the attention of the Hawaiian Legislature, at its next session.

Commission for the Examination and Registration of Titles.—I believe I may state with confidence, that the Government has determined, soon after the arrival of their envoys from Europe, to name *commissioners* to examine and determine upon all questions of title, upon certain precise, definite and uniform rules, applicable to all claimants. This measure will do much credit to the Government; it will set for ever at rest many complaints arising from a misconception of the nature and permanency of land-donations made by the chiefs, as a mark of personal esteem, or in payment of presents made or services rendered to them; it will fix property on a secure basis, facilitate advances of money to proprietors, encourage population and the improvement of land, and prevent future disputes about titles and their limits.

Revision of the Laws affecting the Tenure of Lands, &c.—This, I understand, is also to come before the next Legislature; and I hope the law adviser of the crown, in his laudable endeavours to establish all the courts which the kingdom ought to possess for the regularity of its relations with foreign nations, will find time to apply his mind to the improvement of those laws and courts which more immediately affect the vital interests of the King's subjects, in their relations to his Majesty, to the chiefs and landlords, and to one another.

It appears to me that the poll-tax, the land-tax, and the labour-tax require to be modified and rendered more plain and intelligible to the natives, and that still greater exceptions should be made in favour of those who rear large families, or introduce any new kind of industry or cultivation adapted to the soil of these islands.

It has been the policy of all wise Governments, to promote the industry, invention and commerce of their subjects, by bounties, patent-laws, or other privileges. The benefit of these has been extended to foreign inventors. This Government as yet does not possess pecuniary resources sufficient to give large *premia* in money, but the crown owns waste lands out of which to reward those foreigners who may apply their skill and capital to the introduction of new productions enriching the country generally and affording increased employment to its natives. It is not easy to conceive what practical objections would arise to grants of land carefully and judiciously made for that laudable object. On

the contrary, the great advantages of increased capital and labour must strike every one who compares the very limited population of these islands with the vast quantities of land susceptible of cultivation now lying waste.

It cannot be (or if it be, it ought not to be) the policy of this Government to discourage the introduction of foreign capital and foreign labour. Nothing is so much wanted in the islands, and if properly supplied, nothing will so much promote their prosperity. But considering their remote geographical situation, great inducements are required to attract capital and labour hither, from those countries of more easy access, to which they have hitherto flown.

Oath of Allegiance.—Of late a strong wish has been manifested to induce foreign residents to take the oath of allegiance to this Government; and a series of articles have appeared in "*The Polynesian*" subscribed by "Ligamen" apparently intended to remove the scruples which many foreigners have to take that oath. As all foreigners owe subjection to the Government while they reside within its jurisdiction, I do not see that the oath is objectionable upon that ground, nor would I find fault with those who please to take it; but I question whether as yet it would be wise in this Government to make the tenure of office or place dependent upon the taking of such an oath.

It would be tantamount to an exclusion of British subjects from all appointments of honour, trust, or profit under the crown—for, notwithstanding the arguments and illustrations of Ligamen, the most of them are of opinion that they cannot legally abjure their allegiance to their own sovereign. That the allegiance of the subject is perpetual and indissoluble, according to the English law, seems to have been admitted by the Honourable Daniel Webster in his letter to Lord Ashburton of the 8th of August 1842. And, if not admitted by him, there can be no doubt of Lord Ashburton's belief that such is the law of Great Britain; for in his reply he remarks: "I am well aware that the laws of our two countries maintain opposite principles respecting allegiance to the sovereign. America receiving every year by thousands the emigrants of Europe, maintains the doctrine, suitable to her condition, of the right of transferring allegiance at will. The laws of Great Britain have maintained from all time the opposite doctrine. The duties of allegiance are held to be indefeasible; and it is believed that this doctrine, under various modifications, prevails in most if not all the civilised States of Europe."

Nor is it for a moment to be supposed that a British subject, under that honest conviction, refusing to take the oath of allegiance to king Kamchameha III. would be less likely to serve his Majesty faithfully, than any American, Frenchman, or other foreigner taking the oath, without the same prohibition by the laws of his own country. There could be no objection to an oath to serve his Majesty faithfully in the trust confided to him; but to couple that oath with an abjuration of his native allegiance, for the reasons aforesaid, would place a British subject in a worse position than other foreigners, who by the laws of their own countries are permitted to make that abjuration.

In time of peace, the abjuration of foreign allegiance could be of no consequence to this Government; and if a war should unfortunately arise between this kingdom and any foreign nation, this Government could always suspend the subjects of that nation from the employments they might hold.

Lord Cochrane, while Admiral and Commander-in-chief of the naval forces of Chili, in the war of Independence, and while holding the same command under the Emperor of Brazil, and in Greece, without abjuring his allegiance to Great Britain in either case, could and did make prizes of British ships subjecting themselves to seizure according to the decrees issued by the Governments whose commission he bore at the time.

Many other examples might be given of officers serving with distinction in foreign countries, and with great benefit to those countries.

Foreign Consuls.—Hitherto Great Britain, France, the United States, and Peru, are the only nations that have accredited such agents to this Government.

It is believed that Belgium will soon make a similar appointment; and it can hardly be doubted that Russia, Chili, and Mexico will see the necessity of following the same example.

Besides a commercial agent here, and another in Lahaina, each exercising consular functions, the United States have a commissioner residing at this court.

Among foreign residents, subjects of different nations, some little jealousy exists about the degree of favour enjoyed under this Government. On examination, it will be found that the British complain that the Americans have more favour than the British—that the Americans make the same complaint of the greater privileges enjoyed by the British—and that the French think they are worse off than either Americans or British; and the only legitimate conclusion to be drawn is, that this Government endeavours to deal with all equally and impartially. Were foreigners to be emulous who should deserve most the good opinion and countenance of the Government by obedience to the laws, and by living quietly, orderly, and peaceably amongst themselves, it would be more to their credit than to bring groundless charges of partiality against a young Government struggling to do justice to all.

Society in Honolulu.—In speaking of society, I must be understood as referring only to the social intercourse of foreign residents. All ships of war visiting this port will bear witness to the general hospitality that prevails, so far as the means of the inhabitants will allow, and even farther. This virtue extends to the missionary families, to whose quiet, orderly tea-parties, all strangers are welcome who show any desire to cultivate their acquaintance. There are from twenty to thirty American and English ladies in the place, many of them highly accomplished, and of whom a greater proportion possess personal charms than is usually found in so limited a number in other places. As in most small places, some little party feeling exists, but it is daily diminishing, and it is to be hoped that it will soon disappear entirely, before the good sense and general good feeling of the community.

There are few towns of the same extent where a deep religious

feeling more prevails, and certainly none where more decency and order are observed on the Sabbath. Yet all this exists without any of that gloom and ascetic severity which existed in the early days of Presbyterianism in Scotland and of Puritanism in England and Connecticut.

• There are indeed a few of the old settlers habituated to the license and misrule of heathenism, who are never seen at church, who scoff at the missionaries, and disregard the pure doctrines they teach and the morality they practise; but this little leaven of unrighteousness is too insignificant to corrupt the general mass. Another virtue eminently pervades the society of Honolulu, and that is temperance. During eight months that I have been here, I have not seen one native intoxicated; and what will excite surprise in Europe and America, I have not seen one beggar!

Nor ought I to omit here a tribute of praise to the honesty of the natives. It is very seldom indeed that a case of theft is heard of, and then it is only of a very petty description. As for robbery, assault, or any other acts of violence, unprovoked by the aggression of whites, I believe they are almost unknown in any of the islands.

(To be continued.)

SKETCHES OF SANTA CRUZ AND ST. THOMAS.

BY THURLOW WEED, ESQ.

St. Croix, West Indies.

I PROMISED to you some account of men and things upon this Island. It is situated at the mouth of the Caribbean Sea, and was discovered by Columbus in 1493, then inhabited by Caribs, with whom his men had a skirmish. In 1625, when the English and Dutch took possession of it, they found it uninhabited. In 1649, the English expelled their Dutch auxiliaries; but in the following year the Spaniards from Porto Rico made a descent upon the island, burned the habitations, and massacred the soldiery, and carried the survivors in captivity to Bermuda. In 1651, the Spanish surrendered the island to the French, by whom its then native forests were burned, and the soil rendered exceedingly fertile. In 1653, the French transferred the island to the Knights of Malta, by whom, in 1665, it was sold to a "West India Company" from France, whose charter was annulled by a Royal edict in 1674, when it was again claimed as an appendage to the French Crown. In 1696, the population consisted of some 500 white inhabitants and about 700 blacks. In 1720, Santa Cruz was again uninhabited, the French, in consequence of frequent destructive droughts, having demolished their forts, abandoned their plantations, and removed to St. Domingo. In 1727, the French, capturing some English vessels lying in the harbour, again took possession of the island, retaining it until 1733, when it was sold to the "Guinea Company," an association of Copenhagen

merchants, for £30,750, and from them it was subsequently purchased by the King of Denmark, under whose auspices it was surveyed, in 1754, into plantations, each containing 150 acres. This subdivision is for the most part preserved to the present day. In 1801, the island was taken by the English, but soon restored to Denmark. Again the English took it in 1807, but again restored it to Denmark in 1815, by which Government, with the islands of St. Thomas and St. John, it is still held.

Santa Cruz extends about 30 miles from east to west, and in breadth is from five to six miles. It was evidently created by one of those volcanic efforts to which the laws of nature, in these latitudes, are subject. Eminences high and bold, stretching from north to south, constituted the largest portion of its territory. Most of these, to their very summits, are in a high state of cultivation. These hills, which rise from 12 to 1400 feet above the level of the sea, frequently take the forms of and cones, clothed as they are with deep verdure, present, when seen from ship-board, beautifully picturesque views.

Christiansted, or Bairn-End, is the principal town, and contains about 5,000 inhabitants. This is the residence of the Governor. Fredsted, or West-End, contains about 3,000 inhabitants, and is the principal commercial town, and the residence of invalids, or such of those as do not retire to the plantations. There is an old fort here, garrisoned by a subaltern officer, with some thirty or forty of His Danish Majesty's troops. There are about 200 troops at Bairn-End. A Danish brig of war hovers about the island. It is remarkable that the French, who were so long in the possession of this island, should have left so few of their national memorials and land-marks upon it. Their language is almost unknown here. Nothing, indeed, remains to indicate their footsteps, but the style of building. Nor is it less remarkable that although the Danes have enjoyed almost uninterrupted possession, the island is now essentially English in its language and habits. The natives, black and white, speak English habitually. The negroes, after you become acquainted with their drawling pronunciation, do less violence to Her Majesty's English than many of Victoria's own subjects who reside upon the "fast-anchored Isle."

I need not say that Santa Cruz is now a far less important island, and that the planters are far less prosperous than they were thirty or forty years ago. The sugar competition of Porto Rico and the Brazils, to say nothing of the great quantity produced annually in Louisiana, has greatly crippled and impoverished this island. Indeed, but for the superior and excellent quality of Santa Cruz sugar, the island must have been utterly ruined. The planters have suffered also for several seasons for the want of rain. The average value of the produce of sugar, according to B. Ritter, amounts to above 1,200,000 rix dollars, and that of rum to 500,000 rix dollars a year. The quantity of sugar made now, in good seasons, falls fifty per cent. below that produced in the palmy days of the island. In 1800 Santa Cruz produced 40,000 hogsheads of sugar and 30,000 puncheons of rum. Since that time many plantations have been abandoned, while others are consolidated,

so that this year, which promises an unusually prolific growth of rich cane, only 20,000 hogsheads of sugar and some 14,000 puncheons of rum are the estimated produce.

As the wind almost always blows from the east or south-east here, the windmills are constructed with reference to the usual course of things. There are three estates on the island with steam-mills. These of course "go ahead" regardless of wind or weather. The sugar-crop will be large, though it will get late into the American market. Much of it will be shipped to Denmark.

The sugars are drawn into town by oxen or mules, six of either of which haul four hogsheads. The negroes manage a team very awkwardly. Three or four slaves are driving three yoke of oxen, while another, tugging at a rope tied to the horns, goes ahead of the leaders. The sugars are weighed at the Custom-house, and then taken off in lighters to the ships. The teams return with staves, hoops, meal, herring, &c. &c. for the estates.

Each estate has its name. Those nearest to us are, The William, Little Le Grange, Big Le Grange, Wheel of Fortune, Concordia, Jolly Hill, Carlon, Diamond, Prosperity, Sprat Hole, Whim, North Side, &c. &c. The small estates are worked by gangs of negroes 50 or 60 in number, while the large ones have gangs from 150 to 200 strong. Each estate has also among its slaves a carpenter, mason, smith, and one or more coopers. These men, if industrious and frugal, save enough from their extra work to purchase their freedom when 30 or 35 years old. They, however, remain from choice on the estate, receiving wages, that they may live and die where they were born.

There are, of the thousands stolen from Africa and brought to this island, very few living. Those generations have passed away, leaving an inheritance of slavery to their children. The planters say that the Africans were governed with much more difficulty, and worked with more reluctance, than the present race. They were generally sullen, often revengeful, and could seldom be conciliated even by kindness. Many, they say, would "take the sulks," reject their food, get sick and die. This shows plainly enough, that the poor victims cherished a deep sense of the injustice and wrong they were suffering. The slaves of the present day, who are "to the manor born," have different natures. They grow up to regard their masters as protectors instead of oppressors; and if the master proves kind to them, they are contented and cheerful. But slavery here, as elsewhere, has its repulsive features—features upon which it is painful to look, and upon which I have no disposition to dwell. There are wholesome influences, however, at work here. The day and Sunday school masters are abroad in the island. Slaves are acquiring just moral and religious impressions, and their obedience corresponds with their knowledge. Within the last two years, several hundred marriages between slaves have been solemnised; and a higher tone of moral sentiment is imposing its restraints upon proprietors, managers, &c. &c. For much of this the island is indebted to the Rev. Mr. Mines.

Mr. Walker took me, a few mornings since, into a high mountain, where he showed me, not only the *kingdoms* of St. Croix, but of the surrounding islands. This view, which is truly a sublime one, was from Mount Stuart, or "Bodkin's Hill," as it is most frequently called. It was a clear, calm morning. We rode four miles in a gig, to where, at the foot of the hill, a negro had preceded us with saddled horses, upon which we ascended to an elevation from which the whole island of Santa Cruz lay spread out in full view before us, while at the north we saw St. Thomas and the group of islands in its neighbourhood, the island of Porto Rico in the west; and, had not the rising sun intercepted with its rays our view, the island of Nevis would have been visible in the east. Upon the sea, then in silent repose, not a sail was to be seen, though the eye reached from sixty to seventy miles in all directions. The island itself, which from this elevation had apparently shrunk into an ample but highly-cultivated farm, was clothed in verdure of the deepest green, broken occasionally by fields in which the cane had been cut. Altogether the view was too highly beautiful for a prose description, and one that would have called forth the loftiest efforts of the poet and the painter.

We rode out the other morning to lunch with some friends (Mr. Graddon and lady, of New York) who are staying at Jolly-Hill, and alighted just as the negroes were recovering from a panic occasioned by the burning of one of their houses. Fortunately Major Logan, who owns the estate, happened to be at hand, or a dozen houses would have been consumed; for the negroes, without somebody to direct them, in such emergencies, are like so many sheep. The Major offered the old woman whose house was burned a large, roomy, convenient house that was built for and occupied by the manager, but she warmly protested against it. "Shingle house," she said, "was for buckra—old nigger woman want her trash house." The negro houses are thatched with cane-tops. Finding the old negress, who has been a valuable slave, determined not to move into the "shingle house," the Major set the mason, carpenter, &c., immediately at work to repair her domicile. This woman, he informed us, had four sons and three daughters, all industrious and faithful, at work in his fields. She herself had been exempted for a long time from labour, but such as she chose to perform. We walked about this cluster of negro houses, some thirty or forty of which stand upon an acre or an acre and a half of ground. Each family has its own two or three pigs in a sort of crate pen, and its half-dozen fowls about the door. The houses are shaded by orange, lemon, tamarind, and other trees. We saw here, too, for the first time, the coffee tree, which grows to the size, and in some respects resembles, the oleander. The coffee tree is very pretty. Some of them were in bloom, some budding, and some with nearly ripe coffee.

I rode out the other day with my friends Hill, Walker, and Captain Davis, to dine with Major Logan (a warm-hearted son of Erin), at his

Le Grange estate, which is charmingly situated about three miles from town. After a pleasant walk about his grounds and among his fruit-trees, we sat down at six o'clock to a dinner, excellent and bountiful in itself, and so delightfully flavoured with conversation, that when, at ten o'clock, the "*Vel vel bekomme dem*" salutation was exchanged in a parting glass of Madeira, I thought we had not been more than an hour at table. I was interested while at dinner with what passed between the Major and the negro-drivers and slaves who presented themselves, from time to time, at an open window near the head of the table, with reports or complaints, or asking instructions. The spot where the negroes appeared was so shaded by trees and vines, as to render them invisible, though I sat facing the window. One came to report a case of sickness, another the lameness of a mule, another asked how many hands should go to this field, another how that gang should be employed; and, finally, one came to complain of a negro who was quarrelling with his wife, and keeping their neighbours awake. The other managers were all despatched with brief answers, but this was a case of more delicacy. The wife, it appeared, was in the habit of attending "evening meetings," and staying so late as to excite the husband's jealousy. The parties had made mutual complaint to the Major, and he had advised them to settle their differences and live in peace. After talking the matter over with the man who came to complain, the Major directed him to go back and "tell Jim I think he is wrong; but let them be aisy to-night—tomorrow I will inquire whether Catherine goes to meetings like a good Christian, as I think she is, or is off where a decent woman has no business." These answers were given without in the least interrupting our conversation.

The Major, who has lived a long time on the island, told us many amusing anecdotes. Let me give you a specimen:—When the island was in the possession of the British, its Governor, General Harcourt, purchased "Carlton," a fine estate, now owned by Dr. Stephens. His "manager" was an Irishman, who was indebted more to nature than to education for his intellectual endowments. Some difficulty arising among the slaves, he wrote a hasty note, and despatched a messenger to the Government House, informing the General that there was a "resurrection" on the estate, and asking what should be done? The General, who was a wag himself, wrote, for an answer, by the manager, that he was happy to hear of the "resurrection," and directing M'Cornick to put hoes into the hands of the resurrectionists as fast as they appeared, and set them to work.

ST. THOMAS.

St. Thomas has a most eventful history, for which it is wholly indebted for its fine harbour, with which there is none to compare in the West Indies or South America. The island is mountainous, and, for

the most part, barren, having never, I believe, produced more than three or four thousand hogshheads of sugar in a year. The harbour, narrow at its entrance, swells into a spacious and beautiful octagonal basin, furnishing ample and, except during the hurricane months, safe anchorage for all the vessels that frequent these seas. The entrance on the left is fortified, and on the right there is a telegraph establishment and lighthouse. The city of St. Thomas is built upon three spires, or conical hills, similar in form, stretching out into the harbour, from the base of a high, precipitous mountain. These hills, except that they descend more abruptly, resemble those upon the Hudson River, just north of the city of Hudson. One long, well-built street, devoted to stores and shops, extends east and west through the city. These stores and shops are not only well stocked with goods, but are thronged with purchasers. From this principal street there are courts and lanes running to the quay, which are closely built up with spacious warehouses, that are filled with merchandise and produce. Above the principal street on the hill-side are the mansions of merchants, &c. &c. built upon terraces, your flight to most of which is assisted by steps. Many of the mansions are expensively and all neatly built, never, however, more than two, and generally but one story high, with large piazzas, verandahs, &c. and a profusion of doors and windows, to assist the circulation of fresh air. Still higher up the mountain, and where eagles might be supposed to construct their eyries, stand the old castles and towers built by the *Buccaneers*, so long the terror and scourge of these seas, and whose bloody flag, secretly protected by some nations claiming to be civilised, put the world at defiance. In the harbour about forty vessels now ride at anchor, three of which, the *Texadore* from New York, the *Dunlop* of Boston, and a ship from Maine, were dismasted in a gale in the Gulf Stream. The *Dunlop*, in a totally disabled state, was fallen in with by Admiral Sir Charles Adam, of the British Navy, who took the wreck in tow four hundred miles, when, with the aid of jury masts, she was able to reach St. Thomas.

St. Thomas is a Danish island, but, like St. Croix, was twice in possession of the English; and when its importance, in a commercial point of view, is considered, I am surprised that John Bull should, contrary to his established policy, have restored it. But it was done under constraint, I suppose, by the Allied Sovereigns in their European Pacification, after the overthrow of Napoleon in 1815.

There is a population of about 12,000 in St. Thomas. The confusion of tongues and colours is among the first things that attracts the notice of a stranger. You see and hear people of every colour speaking in almost every language. Among the merchants and shopkeepers you encounter Spaniards, Danes, Germans, Frenchmen, Englishmen, Scotchmen, Italians, Jews, Americans, &c. The negroes speak two, and sometimes three or four languages. I noticed a sprightly black boy in the billiard-room of our hotel, keeping game for one table in

English, for another in Spanish, and ordering punch, sherry-coblers, cigars, &c. for the players, from the bar-keeper, in French, and speaking each language with apparent ease. St. Thomas, by the way, is regularly and abundantly supplied with ice, a luxury of which most of the West India islands are deprived. The first cargo arrived here in 18—. The price varies from three to five stivers a pound. The Hotel du Commerce, at which we are lodged, is the best in the West Indies. Its proprietor is also its cook, who is rarely seen out of the larder or kitchen, the duties of which he discharges with admirable taste and science. Monsieur —— is far happier, I am told, with your admiration of his exquisite dishes than with the price you pay him for them. At this hotel, coffee, if desired, is brought to your bedroom at five, six, or seven o'clock. An ample breakfast is ready at ten o'clock, and dinner is announced at six in the afternoon. I am much better pleased with these meals than with the hours at which they are served. The price paid for board here is 2 dolls. 50 cents per day. The house, though very large, has but few rooms, and can only accommodate twenty-five guests with lodgings, though some sixty or eighty dine here.

St. Thomas is still a place of great commercial activity, though the facilities for money-making are not what they were thirty or forty years ago. But there are stocks of goods here now which are only equalled in value by those in our largest New York houses in the spring and fall. The sale of merchandise in this city, for the month of November, amounted to a million and a half of dollars. The stock of goods now in the extensive establishment of Gruner and Co. through which we were shown, is worth half a million. Goods are landed here duty free. This enables the merchants of St. Thomas to command a large portion of the trade of the Islands and of South America. The circumstance that St. Thomas has always been a free port, has attracted enterprising and adventurous spirits from all parts of the world to this island. Large fortunes have been accumulated in a few years, by persons who, in returning to enjoy the spoils in their own country, take care to speak only in general terms of their business transactions. It is difficult to penetrate the "mysteries" of this island. Its real history is unwritten; but that it has been the scene of more atrocities, and the refuge for more outlaws, than any other ocean isle, is certain. When the castles, to which I have referred, were built, the Buccaneers were masters of the sea, and within their fastnesses were "lords of all they surveyed." It is not strange that before the "supremacy of the laws" was established upon the ocean, while the cupidity of Europe was sharpened by the gold and silver mines of Mexico and Peru, daring and desperate adventurers should sea-lay and rob these rich "rich argosies" upon their return. Then all robbed, some on public and others on private account. Even *Sir Francis Drake* was but an accredited Buccaneer. Columbus, and one or two other Spanish discoverers, in their voyages, were alone governed and influenced by principles and impulses of a higher and nobler character.

When buccaneering, subdued by the progress of maritime civilisation, became less audacious, St. Thomas also yielded to the sway of laws but feebly executed. The bold buccaneer became the lurking pirate, and instead of lording it in castles, found only hiding-places at St. Thomas. "Long, low, black schooners" were not only notoriously fitted out in this harbour within the present century, but these vessels had secret owners, accessories and agents here, while their bloody flag infested these seas. And these owners, &c., after accumulating fortunes by murder and robbery, have gone home to live in idleness and luxury, instead of expiating their guilt, as they should have done, upon a gibbet, as some did, for there have been a score or two of executions for piracy here since the year 1800. There is at this moment a fellow on trial, who, in command of a small sloop coming from Tortola, deliberately murdered two men while they were asleep, and a third, in attempting to save his life by jumping overboard, was drowned. And all this blood was shed for 160 dollars.

The slave-trade is still carried on here, though, like buccaneering and piracy, it has seen its worst days. Large fortunes have been amassed here by this infernal traffic; and I am sorry to learn, that Americans, from some of the Eastern States, have, until within a few years, when they were hunted from the island, been concerned in it. Such, however, is not the character of the American merchants now residing here: on the contrary, such as I have met are gentlemen of commercial and moral integrity.

" A VISIT TO THE INDIANS OF ORIALLA.

Corentyne River, Berbice, South America,
Oct. 1, 1845.

MY DEAR SIR,—As I have so recently written to you in reference to matters in general with respect to this Colony, and as I intend to do so occasionally, agreeably to the desire of —, I will now give you a sketch of a visit which I recently paid to an Indian settlement upon the Corentyne River, some seventy miles above my residence:—

Having had frequent visits from the Arrowacks and Warrows, I promised them that if they would appoint a day, I would go up to their country, spend a few days with them, and give them Divine Service. They agreed, and, faithful to their agreement, they came at the appointed time. My system having been greatly weakened by a recent violent fever, I thought this a good opportunity of going to the upland country, for the twofold purpose of recruiting my strength, and scattering amongst them some seed of divine truth. They brought with them a large canoe, which had been formed from the solid tree, measuring nearly fifty feet long, four feet wide, and three feet deep. It was curved in crescent form from stem to stern, so that the tree must have been immense from which it was hewn. Laden with provisions, I committed

myself to their care, and, on a lovely evening, leaving our moorings, we directed our course to the red man's home. By the aid of the tide, we made about forty miles before midnight, and the river now beginning to fall, we steered into a pretty little bay to take up our lodging for the night. The Indians sprang from the canoe, and by the friction of two pieces of wood, soon obtained a light. They were not long in making a blazing fire from the dried leaves and branches. Having announced that all was ready, I leaped upon the beach, and found my hammock swung to the trees, while the hammocks of the Indians were similarly suspended, forming a circle around the cheerful blaze. The fire was an essential appendage, in not only affording us a friendly light, but in deterring the approach of tigers, horrible mosquitoes, and other ferocious intruders. How happy, thought I, as I lay in my cot, to be free even for one night from the impressive visits and serenading music of those nocturnal vagrants !

It was a glorious night ; the full-orbed moon had just emerged from behind a dark bank of clouds, and in her silvery splendour was gliding on in solemn majesty. Encircled with a host of effulgent orbs, she appeared as Queen amid her brilliant attendants. The surrounding trees, with their overshadowing branches and transparent leaves, received her light and cast their fantastic shadows in all directions. The cocoa-nut tree, the tall and stately palms, crowned with their luxuriant plumes, stood erect, their outstretching gigantic leaves gracefully bending and yielding to the fanning breeze ; while, further off, amidst the shades of the thicker foliage, the fire-flies, with their varied-coloured lights, ever and anon shot athwart the gloom. It required but a slight stretch of imagination to give as it were a talismanic influence to the scene. Those stately timbers looked like so many pillars with their beautiful capitals ; the overhanging branches, curving on all sides, formed every kind of arch from the Gothic to the Roman—some taking gentle sweeps, others tapering up and meeting their fellows in obtuse and acute angles. Then the overtopping foliage and flowery pendants, and the vines entwining their tendrils around each arch, flowed in graceful festoons from every apex. Far away above me the resplendent orbs were gleaming, as vigils looking forth through the night watches—some from their distant and solitary glory, others more near in bright and harmonious fellowship, were pouring down their light through the opening spaces, while in the darkened recesses the flitting lights, some green, some red, like moving lamps, illumined the drapery and decorations of Nature's own temple—a temple more magnificent than any cathedral I have seen on the Continent of Europe. True, there was not here the uniformity and regularity of those splendid superstructures. No massive pile of columns—no ponderous portico—no tessellated pavement here—no groined ceiling nor formal tracery ; but there was the grandeur of Nature's architecture—the gracefulness and ease upon which the eye delights to gaze, the true elements of beauty—fitness and proportion—with which Nature never fails to invest all her works, were here. Through the entrance I could see the horizon refulgent with the corruscations of the flashing lightning, keeping

sentinel at the vestibule of this hallowed spot. Who could not think in such circumstances of that glorious Being, infinitely more glorious than all his works, who presided here—who was present here—whose sweet influence was moving through the silence and solemnity of night, giving to nature its calm repose?

No sound was heard now, save that occasioned by the rustling of the gentle breeze as it passed through the expanding boughs, and the ripple of the placid river as it glided on its destined course. Looking round and seeing that my Indian escorts were safely enclosed in their resting-places, I sunk back and closed my eyes in balmy sleep. The night passed in refreshing slumber, and the morning came. When I awoke, by the aid of the twilight, I discovered my peculiar position. The Indians were asleep around the smoking embers, and everything was quiet and still. As I gazed upon my newly-invented bed-chamber, I could not but smile at my novel and unique situation, and the question was suggested—What would my friends at home think, if they knew that I had turned Indian? and what would they take to exchange their downy couches for a night in the wild woods with the red men of the forest?—As I lay musing, I heard distinctly from the solitude of the woods an audible voice asking—“*Who are you?—Who are you?*”—a very appropriate question I thought for one in my circumstances; and as it was reiterated every minute, the only response I could make was, “*And who are you?*”—for whether the sound came forth from frog or owl, or what, I could not tell, only this I knew, that it was plain English, and the language was spoken more emphatically than it could be by some of my sable flock—at least, so far as these monosyllables were concerned. Nature now began to awake. There went the plunge and the splash of the water-cow as it laved in the river: there the hoarse croaking of the Krapeau, mingling with the monotonous song of the “*kis-kid-dee*,” while the solitary and plaintive voice of the wild dove was enlivened by the cheerful note of the pretty wren, or what is vulgarly called the “God-bird.” Then the parrots in their splendid plumage, with a host of parroquets, commenced their carols, as they spread their wing and floated on the morning air. The moon was visible, but had lost her splendour: she had faded to a delicate paleness, as if conscious that her empire was nearly ended, and that a ruler far more magnificent was about to appear. One or two of her brilliant attendants still lingered at a respectful distance, but they too had lost their charms, and in sickly light sympathised with departing glory. The Indians awoke, and having the start of the sun, all were up before he made his appearance; we embarked, and our canoe shot up the stream. Now the eastern horizon began to glow, and in a few moments the gorgeous sun would rise. The gauze-like and beautifully-tinted clouds which canopied the pavilion of the glorious orb were now drawn up by an invisible hand, and becoming attenuated, they melted into thin air. The splendid luminary in all his glory now arose from his bed of brightness, and throwing aslant his beams upon the opening prospect, the midnight gloom which had cast its dismal shades upon the far-off view instantly vanished, and as a giant refreshed he commenced to run

his race. In the distance, where the river forms an abrupt bend to the left, Orialla appeared. The land now begins to rise, and the undulating embankments and the perpendicular cliffs assure us that we are leaving the land of swamps and miasma behind us. But the view that was before us! The sandhills, as far as the eye could see, presented a peculiar appearance, at least to one who had not seen high land for some sixteen months. Their chalky surface reflected the dazzling light of the sun's rays amidst the deep-dark surrounding green, and the brown and yellow clay-fronts of the cliffs which overhung the river gave forth a beautiful amber light, shining with golden hues in the sombre distance.

Then there were just perceptible narrow strips of the erect banks, completely bare, from the summit to the margin of the river, which presented the same appearance, and for a time it was uncertain whether they were cascades pouring down their silver waters to the bounding river. When adjacent to their homes, the Indians screamed—if not the war-hoop, at least to my ears something like it; but I soon understood its meaning, as it was immediately answered by the echoes of the sounds uttered by the squaws and piccaninies, who stood in the little valleys and on the bluffs waving their hands in token of gladness at their return. At last we got to the beautiful Orialla. We soon debarked and clambered up the steep banks. We were safe. Mr. De Wolff, the commissioner of rivers, is stationed here, and lives in patriarchal simplicity. His house is made of bamboo cane, walls and partitions being plastered with the tenacious muddy soil. While here I made several excursions to the wigwams of the Indians, and found them not devoid of *politeness* and *hospitality*. While standing in one of those rude but convenient dwellings, I turned round and found my servant had already made acquaintance, for one of the squaws was in the act of taking some half-dozen fish from the burning wood, and placing them, with no inconsiderable supply of cassava bread, in his hands.

Of course there is no market here, so that the old gentleman, with becoming industry, attends to his well-provisioned gardens, and cultivates his own vegetables. Then he has a huntsman, an Indian, who every day goes forth in search of game. In his Nimrod exploits, he disdains the encumbrance of any clothing, esteeming himself more at liberty to make his way in the entangled forest without, as he thinks, such a useless appendage. He is a fine-looking young man. He always returns with deer, fowl, wild rabbits, and sometimes with Mannitsee and Pedree. He is a good shot, either with the bow and arrow, or the rifle.

Some of the views from the heights adjacent to Orialla are truly magnificent. I took a sketch of one from the spot where it is said that Bishop Coleridge sat for hours gazing upon the magnificence of the scenery, fascinated with the grandeur of the prospect. In consequence of the serpentine bending of the majestic river, and the projecting promontories of the banks upon either side, one is led to imagine that he is looking upon extensive lakes and thickly-wooded islands, and this appears to be the case both in the foreground and also in the distance, where nature is seen to spread away until it is lost in indistinctness. Of course, it is impossible for the pen or the pencil to picture

motion, but this would be necessary in order to give a true idea of the sublimity of the scene, for while the variety of beautiful trees on the apparent islands bent gracefully to every breeze, the rippling waters of the imaginary lakes which embraced them, flowed on with the rapidity of the falling current. Then above you, reminding one of the sublime scenes of Switzerland, where mountains piled aloft above mountains tower in the heavens, immense masses of clouds (*cumulo stratus*), with their borders beautifully defined, rolled on in harmonious fellowship, while their gorgeous shadows, like spectres of the deep, attended their rapid movements down in the depths of the bright liquid element below.

Sunday, the wished-for day, came. Notice having been previously given that there would be Divine service, it was pleasing to see the Indians with their squaws and children coming down from the heights, and others in the light canoes gliding on swiftly,—all converging to the spot appointed for the worship of the Great Spirit. They came in their best attire. The women were prettily dressed,—if they may be called dressed, who were only covered from the waist downwards. They have beautiful heads of jet black hair, glossy and shining, which upon this occasion was divided over the forehead, drawn behind the ears, and plaited and twisted in European style, at the back of the head. They wore a profusion of necklaces and armlets made of different-coloured beads. The men were not so particular, the dress of each being Indian *à la mode*, confined to a simple covering. They were all, however, clean, and behaved with the greatest decorum. There were between sixty and seventy present: some sat upon the greensward, others upon logs of timber, while I took my stand beside the trunk of a venerable tamarind tree, with a rude table as desk and pulpit before me. This majestic tree spread its immense branches over the whole congregation, who were screened from the midday sun in its ample shade. The commissioner acted as clerk, while I read the beautiful liturgy of our Church in the hearing of those simple children of nature. Most of them understand, and some of them can converse in English. They listened with becoming attention while I endeavoured, in as plain a language as possible, to direct their thoughts to the love of God in the gift and sufferings of His beloved Son. At the conclusion of the service, eleven of their little ones were presented for baptism. Some few years since, Bishop Coleridge, on the same spot, dedicated about forty of their offspring to the Almighty by the same divine rite. They, with pleasure, told the circumstance.

On this calm Sabbath the sight and the services were delightful. In the front, the noble river was sweeping onwards, reminding me of that graphic passage in the Acts, where it is said, "and on the Sabbath day we went out of the city by a river side, where prayer was wont to be made, and we sat down and spoke to the women who resorted thither." On every side the orange, the lime, the coffee, the banana, and the mango trees were in bloom, interspersed with the majestic wild locust, the sand box, and those living Corinthian columns, the magnificent palms, which, while looking down from their towering altitude upon their lowly fellows of inferior growth, protected them in their parental

shadows from the scorching ray. In the rear was the primitive dwelling of the old man, who, with his family, were amongst the audience. All nature seemed to accord in the solemnity of the occasion: the air was cool and refreshing, charged with odoriferous fragrance from the spicy hills. Overhead the rolling clouds occasionally passed by, and threw their dark shadows down to solemnise the scene; and the innocent birds springing from spray to spray, chimed in with their sweet notes, while we sung one of the sacred songs of Zion.

The Indians here are far inferior to the aborigines of North America in size, in muscular formation, and in general contour. The "Sacs and Foxes" of the far west especially are a noble-looking race, and whether you gaze upon their gigantic and well-proportioned figures, displaying, as they do, athletic forms, powerful shoulders, and sinewy limbs, as they stand erect before you, or see them on their fiery steeds, wielding their javelins and spears, you involuntarily think of the lion of the forest. There is nothing *mean or small* in the expression of their steady eye and intelligent features, and they are what they appear to be, for in all their transactions, whether in war or peace, they are honourable; their words are truth. When dressed in their war-costume, with the richly-decorated mocasins—their ancle bells keeping music to their march—their tomahawks, their spears, clubs, bows and arrows, one is led to see, that from their brethren here the glory has faded. But a brighter day, I trust, is dawning for those and for these, when no longer the white man will seek to overcome *right by might*, but will make restitution for the injuries inflicted, in sending amongst them heralds, not to sound the clarion of war, but the trumpet of the Gospel of Peace. Would it not be well if the Colonial Government, or the venerable Society which has shed so much light throughout the world, would make provision for the location of a teacher and catechist in a place so interesting?

The morning for my return had now arrived. The canoe and the Indians were in waiting. Having bid those farewell who had assembled on the bank, we started. We were not suffered to come away empty; for here I found fruits, venison, fresh cocoa-nuts, &c. Here, too, were specimens of vanilla, frankincense, and other aromatic perfumes, which we had taken fresh from the trees while rambling in the woods. We were accompanied part of the way by an old Christian Indian, nearly eighty years of age, named Jeremiah. He was perfectly blind and his hair quite white. He had a most benignant expression of countenance, and a complacent smile was continually playing over his features. The plaintive tones of his voice as he told me of his "Christian teacher a long time ago," indicated great gentleness. As I looked upon his happy visage and saw his sightless eyeballs, I endeavoured to read the musings of the intellect within; this was difficult, but I knew the index of that mind told of cheerful emotions, and I hoped of blissful expectations. When we came to a small inlet some way down the river, old Jeremiah was to leave. Here a little Indian boy and a dog were waiting as his guides. He shook my hand, saying "Good-by, Massa." We left him on the sandy beach, and as we shoved off, he stood waving his hand,

reiterating "Good-by, Massa." While making for the centre of the river, I saw the old man, with the aid of his long staff, scrambling up the steep and rugged ravine towards his native savanna and his own wigwam. As we glided down the stream, I thought of the happy Sabbath, and my Indian congregation, and the solemn reflection came over the spirit, what effect will the thoughts then expressed have upon those untutored minds? Shall it be evinced that they were as good seed cast upon rich soil, or as the silent ripples which played on the river before me, that came and are gone as things that were, but are not? * * *

This was a heavenly day, and we came on swiftly towards my home. The evening was now advancing, and in a short time the sun would set. As he sank beneath the horizon, he threw upwards his beams, which shone with peculiar lustre as they marked their outlines upon the clear blue sky. There were several clouds of various sizes and graceful forms hung round his setting glory: they caught his beams, and his glory lingered. Some were of the blazing red, some of the beauteous azure, and others of the silvery grey: here some were irradiated with purple hues, and there others had their borders fringed with golden light,—while beneath all the broad surface of the smooth and tranquil river reflected their refulgence, and shone like burnished silver. Having nothing else to occupy my thoughts, I began to philosophise or moralise: How various and beautiful those clouds! but they owe all their beauty and loveliness to the departed sun; and while so lovely, they are receptacles of water destined to descend in fruitful showers to fructify the earth. Thus should it be with the Christian Church. However divided by nation and language; however various its different aspects may be; whatever rays of divine truth its scattered parts may reflect,—whatever of the beauty of holiness may be presented,—all the light and all the beauty are borrowed and reflected from the glory of the Sun of righteousness, and, like those fructifying clouds, are destined to water and refresh the moral world. * * * *

But night came on, and then midnight. It felt cold after the intense heat of the day, and I lay for shelter at the bottom of the canoe, but got chilled. We arrived at my solitary abode, and while making our way up from the river, the air seemed to be teeming with musquitoes and sand flies. Not satisfied, upon this occasion, with attacking the ordinary parts of the body, they were now experimenting upon eyes, ears, nostrils, mouth, and all, rendering it impossible to breathe without inhaling those mimic monsters. The Indians remained with me all night, and left in the morning. I had symptoms of fever. My servant was also attacked, and left me to have himself taken care of elsewhere. The fever having suddenly deprived me of strength, and being completely alone, with a mind confused, and a body weak, and a burning brow, I lay helpless. Two days and nights passed without one to wet my lips. There was no residence nearer than a mile, and no messenger nigh. But providentially a strange dog, which had attached himself to me, came, and although it had no food, never left the house. His barking at last brought a poor African to my bedside, to whom I made signs for medical aid. This is missionary life. Is it surprising that

Lord Byron, impressed by the benevolence of his dog, in contrast with the selfishness of man, which he sometimes witnessed, erected a monument and inscribed an epitaph to the faithful animal? Surely the strongest proof to the statement of Scripture as to man's depravity is given by man himself. Here a mind of no ordinary faculties, with a most vivid imagination and emotions which went to the depth of being—a mind, too, of comprehensive attainments, unwittingly commemorates the truth of the sacred record, that the human race are fallen and depraved. But I am now convalescent, and my reminiscence of the visit to Orialla is pleasant. In the vicissitudes of this life, however chequered it may be, memory, as well as anticipation, has its magic influence. In the form of remorse it can plant our onward path with thorns, but with the consciousness of uprightness, in the recollection of pleasing scenes, it can make fragrant our path as with roses.

Let those in quest of health, instead of encountering a long and expensive voyage to Europe, take a trip to the upland country of the Corentyne—inhalé there the mountain breezes—drink there from the limpid spring—pass their Sabbaths with the Indians, and if they have any taste for exporting the Christian knowledge, which they have imported, there they will have the scope for diffusing it to some good effect. If a few of our spirited and wealthy merchants or planters would direct their attention to the erection of some neat country villas upon the slopes of the beautiful embankments of that part of the river, or amidst the undulations surrounding Orialla, perhaps they and their families might find it a delightful retreat during a few months of the year. Would not this be better than continual delving and plodding under the burning suns and amidst the swamps and mephitic effluvia of Guiana? No venomous mosquitoes—no offensive cockroach or poisonous reptile there. Broad and well-drained savannas, two hundred feet above the river—hills and valleys—forests and plains—mimic waterfalls and meandering streams—amaranthine bowers and shady groves—cool ambrosial breezes—beautiful prospects of sunny isles and distant hills—overhanging precipices and frightful ravines—fruits and flowers, in rich variety—birds of pretty note and gorgeous plumage—the sporting fish—the bounding deer, &c.—

The wandering streams that shine between the hills,
The grots that echo to the tinkling rills,
The dying gales that pant upon the trees,
The lakes that quiver to the curling breeze.

Certainly the Indian had the tact for selecting the most healthy and most beautiful parts of the country.

Yours, until you hear from me, &c. &c.,

WILLIAM BLOOD.

THE EMIGRANT: A TALE OF AUSTRALIA.

BY W. H. LEIGH, ESQ.

AUTHOR OF "RECONNOITRING VOYAGES AND TRAVELS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA, CAPE
OF GOOD HOPE, ETC.;"
H. V. P. OF THE AFRICAN INSTITUTION OF PARIS, ETC. ETC.

CHAPTER IX.

"I will not ask where thou liest now,
Nor gaze upon the spot:
There flowers or weeds at will may grow,
So I behold them not."---BYRON.

"WHAT is there in this world that exceeds the pangs of a guilty conscience? Every revolving minute seems surcharged with misery; the day hurries to its close in a sombre shroud, and the night comes upon us loaded with troubles; sleep is at once denied the unhappy wretch, and he dozes like a watchful dog, starting ever and anon as his agonised brain conjures up, with all its attendant horrors, the approach of some direful event.

"In this dreadful situation was I, when I was for a period relieved by the intervention of fever—during the delirium of which I disclosed at once every particular relating to the horrible deed which haunted me day and night. I looked upon myself as a murderer; I even went so far as to contemplate—but, oh! I dare not think of those demoniacal thoughts which I then so greedily encouraged. To add to my anguish, I received a letter from one upon whom, above all others, I had anchored my every hope—and now, having discovered my retreat, she—even she, my adorable Clarissa, was amongst—ay, even the very first to hurl a dagger into the wounds of a prostrate friend. 'She had heard *all*,' she said, 'and the suspicion that fell upon me—my flight, my mysterious hiding-place, my conduct—all together told her but too plainly that the tongue that whispered my guilt breathed no lie. She advised me to fly that country whose laws I had so outraged, or at once acknowledge my crime, and surrender myself to the offended justice of the land.'

"Rendered furious by such ingratitude on the part of one, above all others, I——" Here the feelings of the speaker were unable to continue the narrative; he held his handkerchief to his face, and in an instant was in the solitude of his cabin below.

"Well, I certainly never heard anything to come up to that!" cried Mr. Turkey.

"It's a dreadful tale!" was echoed around, as they gazed one upon the other, and found that the melancholy youth had departed.

"It's one of the toughest yarns I ever heard," said the Captain.
"So he actually either poisoned the fellow, or frightened him to death,

that's certain—one of the two; and they are both bad enough—there's not a pin to choose. I've sailed the sea a many years, but I don't know I ever carried out before—a—a— Well, I'm very sorry for the poor fellow—he is but a lad, and it was the man's own fault trusting him."

"Ah, there you are right," interrupted Mr. Turkey; "there, Captain, you're right: I've no notion having bones wrenched out of my skull by any bungler that chooses to put the corkscrew on them. Drawing teeth is an operation some people very much resort to: the least cold, pain, throbbing o' the gums—oh, off to some old wife, and show your valour—out with him! out with the tusk, and half your jaw! as if one's teeth, like mushrooms, spring up in one night, and fit for plucking in the morning; as one of the poets tells us—Byron, I think, ode the — Memory don't serve—but here it is:—

‘Thou, form’d to eat, and be despised, and die,
Even as the beasts (teeth) that perish.’

And in the self-same canto, the poet actually recommends ‘a whetstone for the teeth;’ which to me is confirmation strong, that *that* illustrious defunct bard was entirely of my opine, that a tooth placed in our gums by Providence should there remain, as a man says when he marries, ‘for better, for worse;’ and, in my opinion, it's a species of sacrilege to force the ivories from their proper homes, and unfeelingly tear them from the tender and fostering embrace of the affectionate gums. I have spoken."

"At all events, Mr. Turkey," said Mr. Rennie, "when it is necessary to one's own comfort to have a tooth extracted, you of course would submit? We cannot be restless night after night, and foodless day after day, for the sake of nursing a vile old stump which is utterly useless, and whose room would be better than his company."

"No—no extraction! not a thought of it, Mr. Rennie, till we have soothed the discontented member by every means in our power—by opium, by blisters on the scruff of our necks and behind our ears—at the same time gallons of salts, nitric acid, scoring the gums like pork for roasting, and even then not resorting to the screw till you have thrust a red-hot poker into the very vitals of the offender. I can conceive anything of a horrible nature, but of *all* horror of horrors is the wrenching out one's grinders! Oh, thou poor Jew that refused to lend King John thy money!—oh, thou hapless son of Israel!—and a tooth of thine—thy invaluable ivory to be dragged from thy miserable jaw, one after another, one after another,—thou couldst not endure it—no! lover as thou wast to thy gold—it was not equal to ‘bone of thy bone,’ in thy just estimation of jewellery. No! no tooth-drawing—the very rack before it. I'd turn a Mussulman to-morrow, rather than lose a tooth to-night."

"I think," cried the Captain, "your remedies are worse than the disease. But list—the bell strikes eight, and the Steward telegraphs the supper, where we will find occupation for our respected grinders, and over a brimming bowl of punch drink ‘May we never lose a grinder,’ and better success to our unfortunate passenger."

REMINISCENCES OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA.

BY CHARLES F. ELLERMAN, ESQ.,

AUTHOR OF "THE AMNESTY; OR, THE DUKE OF ALBA IN FLANDERS;" &c. &c.

CHAPTER XV.

In which it is clearly proved that "FREE TRADE" is the ORIGIN and MAIN CAUSE of the Prosperity of Cuba; and if applied to England, it would produce the same beneficial effects.

"PROTECTION is the universal cry
Of those who leave the poor to starve and die!"

Chap. I. Rem. of Cuba.

"Beware! It is not the gregarious crowd who support a system in its day of general acceptance that will be remembered, but the few who fight the battle of the old against the new, and thus become the most recent representatives of antiquated error."—*Times*, 10th Dec. 1845.

"WELL, my dear sir," said Mr. Smith to me a few days after his adventure with the corpse—"Well, you almost persuade me to become a Free Trader!"*

By this observation, the reader will perceive that Smith, Peabody, and myself had had a long chat upon the horrors of Monopoly and the blessings of Free Trade. The American, like a sensible man, loudly vaunted the laws of that country which scorned to raise a revenue on food, and as loudly and vehemently vented his spleen against that Government which taxed the food of the people for the sole advantage of a privileged class—the aristocracy and landlords. The rulers of Great Britain, as a matter of course, came in for the lion's share in the Yankee's abuse (which we ought to call honest lashings); and Mr. Smith would fain have stood up for our noble leeches, had we not finally shown him, black upon white, that those who pique themselves upon being the rulers of these realms, plunder the people to the tune of *many* millions yearly, without benefitting them in any manner.

The subject originated in a digression on the trade of the Havana. Mr. Smith had been a *Monopolist* all his life, without having once considered the subject; but his visit to Cuba had in a measure enlightened his mind and developed his faculties. He had mixed with men who had seen much of the world—men who in conversation clearly proved, that unfettered or Free Trade tended more in the long-run to benefit a country than all the protection or the monopoly the aristocracy could invent—a mere trick practised to *gull* the people and *benefit* their own class. He yielded to the arguments of sensible men, and almost trem-

* [We wish it to be distinctly understood, that in giving insertion to any article, we do not necessarily advocate the line of politics or identify ourselves with the opinions and theories of our Correspondents.—EDITOR.]

bled when he thought of the impending struggle between the aristocracy and the people of England. He had heard and read of stubborn rulers, he had heard and read of revolutions, and, like all honest men, he trembled. Fortunately, he remembered that Reform was the only sure preventive of Revolution and Rebellion; and he trusted and hoped from the bottom of his soul, that the mediator betwixt Bliss and Misery would enlighten those whose destiny it is to govern nations.

Reform, it is true, has done much for the people; but Reform has not yet so played its part, as to be buried with all the honours due to an honest and noble patriot. Reform is still destined to play a noble part in England. In Cuba it abolished obnoxious laws; and one of its best actions was to throw open all the ports of the island to Foreign Trade. What was the result of this measure? Why, in the space of about fifteen years, the trade carried on by vessels under the Spanish flag increased nearly fifteen per cent., whilst that under Foreign colours augmented to twenty per cent. What can our English Monopolists say to this? Perhaps they will sneer, and accuse us of partiality; but we advise them to look to the statistics of the trade of that fertile island (Cuba), and they will see, to their utter dismay, that, far from exaggerating, our assertions are borne out by figures.

Everybody knows that Cuba has no gold nor silver mines, although the former is sometimes found in the rivulets that take their sources in the mountains: on the other hand, there is no island in the West Indies whose trade is so prosperous as hers. Our West India Possessions, prior to the emancipation of the slaves, were secondary, when compared to Cuba, and at that period Free Trade had not opened her ports to enterprising foreigners.

The history of the trade of the Island of Cuba is highly interesting, and tends to demonstrate that the prosperity of a country depends solely upon the unfettered industry and the commercial activity of its inhabitants; that if the industry and the capital of the people are taxed and rendered subservient to Monopoly or heavy duties, their energy and means become contracted and fettered. Remove the evil, and both the country and the people prosper. Free Trade enabled Cuba to send upwards of £2,500,000 to the mother-country between the years 1825 and 1835. Can we say the same of any of our Colonies? We fear it is the reverse with them, and that England has to maintain her children, in lieu of her offspring nourishing her. Our mistaken policy was the cause of our losing America; but time, that great solver of the past, the present, and the future, has clearly proved that that loss was a blessing; for our trade with America has increased to an enormous extent, whilst the burthen of supporting an army and its rulers was removed with the Declaration of Independence.

It may one day be the same with our Canadian Possessions.

Cuba suffered considerably during the war. We captured all the vessels met under the Spanish flag, and so effectually closed the ports of that island that their people were almost reduced to a state of starvation: that is to say, they lacked all the products of Europe consumed in the island. But the moment the United States of America declared

themselves independent, the authorities of Cuba, heedless of the laws which Monopoly had invented and decreed, broke the tablets, and opened all their ports to the flags of those nations with whom they were in alliance. Brother Jonathan, ever *wide awake* and *ready to go ahead*, was the first to profit by the advantages thus offered to the flag which bears the stars and stripes, and has contrived to carry on an enormous trade with the island up to this very day. Far from diminishing, the commerce between America and Cuba is on the increase, and the greatest friendship reigns between the two nations.

Let not the reader suppose that the prosperity of Cuba was pleasing to the mother-country. Alas! the MONOPOLISTS of the principal ports of Spain, jealous of the prosperity which the opening of the ports to the Americans and other nations had conferred upon Cuba, hastened to petition the King and the Ministers to restore the reign of Monopoly, and that accursed tyrant was once more set upon his throne. As might be expected, misery was the consequence!

But there were Free Traders at the Havana, as persevering and as honest as our Cobdens, our Brights, and our Villiers'. They had sufficient penetration to discern all the evils attendant on Protection, and they loudly advocated the abolishment of such obnoxious laws. More fortunate than the leaders of our Anti-Corn Law League, Spain, during the year 1808, found herself forced to allow the authorities of Cuba to *shift for themselves*; and then it was that those liberal and noble-minded patriots, Don José-Pablo Valiente, Don Luis de Las Casas, and the celebrated Don Francisco de Arango, finding themselves unshackled and freed from doting and prejudiced Ministers, boldly and wisely declared all the ports of the island open.

From that moment, wealth and prosperity flowed into and reigned in Cuba!

Like our own great Cobden, Arango was a true patriot, a disinterested man, who ruined himself to insure the prosperity of Cuba. His writings, as well as his speeches, show the injustice and impolicy of Protection, and all his time was spent in trying to convince his fellow-countrymen and the world at large of the folly of restricting trade. This theory, not a speculative nor a delusory one, will triumph in the end, for the principles of Free Trade are daily gaining ground, and enlisting fresh and numerous disciples. It has been a hard struggle, but Reason must, and will triumph in the long-run.*

Like that Monopoly which has been so long sustained and fought for by our landed proprietors and place-hunters, and which a bad harvest and rotten potatoes have in a measure tended to overthrow in England after three years' struggle and agitation on the part of Free Traders, it required all the tact and talent of the liberal-minded Count de Villanueva to counteract and crush the heartless, selfish intrigues of those who vainly endeavoured to blind the nation as to the imaginary benefits secured by Protection. History is there to prove, how the

* This was written a few days prior to the unexpected announcement in *The Times* which rang the *knell* of the Corn Laws.

Count's laudable efforts stirred up the hatred of the merchants of Cadiz, who monopolised the trade, to the ruin of the Colonies. The description of their coalition is highly interesting; and he even goes so far as to state, that they would willingly have sacrificed him and his liberal coadjutors to their fury and vengeance. It may be *truly* said of Monopolists in general, that they would willingly "fire their neighbour's house to roast their own eggs."

What will our Monopolist readers say to the following declaration of Don José-Pablo Valiente? Let them bear in mind that these sentiments were spoken as far back as 1814, and were laid before the Congress held at Vienna by the Spanish Minister.

"We cannot," says he, "close our eyes to the essential changes of the times and of circumstances; the result of such an error would spread utter dismay in the Colonies, and be followed by the most dreadful consequences. I repeat, that such laws appertain exclusively to times *gone by*; and he who would impose them at this period, conspires to damp the happiness of the inhabitants, and crush their prospects and their liberty—filling them with disgusts which never fail to drive them to acts of despair. No policy can be more baneful than the one which forces a certain class of men to consider themselves as a despised sect, and submit to laws which tend to oppress, impoverish, and ruin them."

We ask again, what will the Monopolists and bread-taxers of England think of such sentiments as these? Yet they emanated from the counsellor of a despotic monarch, whose advisers generally lean towards tyranny and oppression. If such liberal ideas as those expressed by Valiente at the commencement of this century were listened to and carried into effect, how much more ought our rulers, who perhaps have not taken the prosperity of Cuba into consideration, though they have an eye fixed upon the commerce of the Colonies of our neighbours—how much more ought they to have profited by the example set by Cuba, especially as the trial has been crowned *with complete success*! Ever since the day that Cuba was enabled, unfettered and unshackled, to exchange her rich products for those of other countries, her trade has yearly been on the increase—her harbours are visited and crowded with ships bearing the flags of all Powers, which, thanks to the blessings of PEACE and the reign of REASON, exchange their commodities for sugar, coffee, and other articles; whilst the intercourse of so many people cements the bonds of friendship, and makes them all Cosmopolites.

It is surprising that Monopoly has had so long a reign, the more especially as it only benefits a few to the detriment of *millions*. The great opponents to the Free Trade in Cuba were a *few* merchants of Barcelona, Cadiz, Bilbao, and Santander, who derived large profits, having the whole of the trade in their hands. As a matter of course, the people were the victims, paying through the nose for the necessaries of life, whilst the gains of the importers were estimated at from 200 to 400 per cent.: as a matter of course, they were Monopolists, and

loudly clamoured for Protective Duties. Had these duties in a measure benefited the country, the tax might have been supportable in a certain degree; but the Colonists could not shut their eyes to the monstrosity of a Monopoly which impoverished the mass, and enriched a few privileged ones.

We have already stated that Cuba sent upwards of £2,500,000 sterling to Spain between 1823 and 1835—an enormous sum for a Colony almost in a state of infancy, for even now her resources are not half developed. Between the years 1835 and 1838, Cuba paid £2,681,000 to the mother-country out of £3,426,000 sterling raised by taxation, independent of £2,800,000 which were levied on the productions of the island—which immense sum was spent in refitting and equipping the fleet. Thus we find, that so soon as the blessings of FREE TRADE were bestowed upon Cuba, she was enabled to aid—nay, support and prevent the mother-country from being gazetted among the list of bankrupts. Let the rulers of Great Britain take a leaf out of the book of Don José-Pablo Valiente, and they will find that by reducing the duties by one-half upon certain articles, the consumption will increase threefold, and augment the revenue in proportion. When the duty upon sugar was lowered, the consumption began to increase in proportion as the article became cheaper. Suppose the duties now in force upon tea, sugar, coffee, wine, and fruit were to be subjected to a further reduction—it will stand to reason that many who are now prevented from enjoying articles considered as luxuries with us, but which are in reality necessities to the country which produces them, will readily come forward, and by doubling—nay, trebling the consumption, the revenue will increase. If there be a Monopolist who doubts our assertion, we refer him to the Rule of Three, backed by Multiplication.

Were the Spanish Government to reduce the import duties in Cuba, the trade with that island would naturally augment tenfold, and its exports increase in proportion. But the rulers of Spain and her Colonies are guilty of the same error as that which has ever marked the policy of our Statesmen. They imagined that high protective duties were indispensable for the maintenance of a State burthened with *lavishly-paid servants*; and by imposing them, they cramped the resources of the country, and impoverished the people. The capital impeachment now laid by FREE TRADE against MONOPOLY at this present moment engrosses the minds of all men. Europe, Asia, and America have their eyes fixed upon the accused and accusers, anxiously awaiting the decision of the jury. Who can doubt but that a verdict will be given in favour of Free Trade?

Monopolists, one word more and we have done. Is there one amongst your once-powerful body who can honestly lay his hand upon his heart and say, it is just and lawful to tax the food of the people for our own sole individual benefit? Perchance you calm your consciences by the thought, that your incomes, though wrongfully acquired, are well spent, and enrich the tradesmen, servants, and others dependent upon your expenditure. But if you are not yourselves alive to

the fallacy—nay, absurdity of such self-delusion, say, *privileged classes*, how would you treat the petition of a score of individuals who should seriously propose to Parliament, that with a view of improving trade and benefitting the industrious classes at large, a *million* sterling per annum should henceforward be placed at the disposal of each humble and disinterested petitioner? The effrontery and absurdity of such a proposal must strike every one, and yet in principle it is identical with the present laws of PROTECTION.

What can be more unjust, uncharitable, and, we will add, unchristian, than to tax the food of the Poor? It is a monstrous, revolting law, which prevents the poor man from filling his belly with the food that has been given to him by the Omnipotent. It is mighty fine for a well-fed royal duke to say, when a country is threatened with famine, that “*he* can see no symptoms of distress.” Of course not—

“What cares the lord or squire for those who pine
In wretchedness, provided *he* can dine—
Have a French cook his palate to caress,
A meek Swiss valet to arrange his dress?”

It is generous in the extreme for another duke, though not a royal one, to recommend a pinch of curry-powder dissolved in half-a-pint of boiling water, in order to warm and comfort a poor man's *empty* stomach. Away with such ridiculous—we should add, such monstrous folly! Yet such sentiments as these emanate from men who occupy high stations in our *blessed country*, and to whom the poor look for succour in the hour of adversity. That hour has come; and are the poor to be sacrificed because our aristocracy are selfish—because they have the means of procuring that which their tenants are dying for? Marry, come up, my lords; the day has arrived when your lordships must pull in your horns. The Sliding Scale has proved a failure; Protection is looked upon as a bugbear; the finger of scorn is pointed against Monopoly; Political Economy has opened the eyes of the nation, and men are no longer to be blinded with the fallacious cry, that Protection is absolutely necessary to enable the English farmer to grow corn: that theory is worn thread-bare, and Class-interest cannot stay the torrent.

Be forewarned, Landed Proprietors. The occupants of your farms—that bold and industrious yeomanry, whose merits you vaunt in your after-dinner speeches, whose sympathy you *fancy* yourselves to possess, and whom you expect to side with you in the mighty struggle against the masses—yea, the very occupants of *your farms* begin to perceive the hollowness and selfishness of your professions. Have you ever dreamed, on your downy couches, that they might one day become the owners of the broad acres they now till as your tenants-at-will? We recommend you, ere it be too late, to change your mad career, and treat and look upon them as friends and brothers, or else they will, in their turn, treat you as they would their bitterest enemies. 'Tis not the people, or its dregs, whom you despise, that alone clamour for a

repeal of obnoxious and tyrannical laws. Look to the list of the champions of Free Trade, and your lordships will find among the host some of the most influential of your own class, backed by our merchant princes, City Crœsuses, manufacturers, and tradesmen. 'Tis not a motley crew of street or chimney sweepers, who clamour for a repeal of duty; 'tis the wealth and industry of the land, who blush to think that *they* live in an age when men are base and treacherous enough to render bread unpurchasable to millions of their countrymen. A law may work well for a lustre or two,—that term expired, in lieu of benefiting a country it acts as a bane: this discovered, it should be abolished.

We shall conclude with an appropriate quotation from our first chapter, wherein we deprecated Protective Laws, and all that pertains to that fiend, Monopoly.

“ Presuming man! Know thou 'twas Heaven's decree,
That nations should on each dependent be;
What the *one* lacks, the *other* should supply;
The bonds of TRADE are CONCORD's surest tie!
If Britons could but *once* united be,
CORN, and EVERY TRADE—might then be Free!!”

These were the arguments which induced Mr. Smith to become a Free Trader. Let us hope that he will have many imitators!!

(To be continued.)

OUR NOTE-BOOK.

THE COAL-FIELDS OF CHINA.—It is probable that coal was discovered, and was in common use in China, long before it was known in the Western world. It is mentioned by a noble traveller of the thirteenth century as abounding throughout the whole province of Cathay, of which Peking is the capital, “where certain black stones are dug out of the mountains, which stones burn when kindled, and keep alive for a long time, and are used by many persons, notwithstanding the abundance of wood.”

Among the people of Peking, three kinds are in use :—

1. That employed by the blacksmiths. It yields more flame than the other qualities; it is more fierce, but is subject to decrepitate in the fire: on which account, probably, the blacksmiths use it pounded in minute particles.

2. A harder and stronger coal used for culinary purposes, giving out more flame than the other sorts so employed; it is less quickly consumed, and leaves a residuum of grey ashes. There are several gradations of these. The best are hard to break, of a fine grain, a deep black colour, soiling the hands less than the others. It is sometimes sufficiently silicious to give fire with steel. Others are of a very coarse grain, are easily broken, and make a bright fire, leaving a reddish ash. Another species crackles or decrepitates when first placed on the fire; and falls down, almost entirely, in scales, which close the passage of the air, and stifle the fire.

3. A soft, feebly-burning coal, giving out less heat than the second class; consuming more quickly, it breaks with greater facility, and in general is of deeper black than the sorts previously mentioned. It is commonly this description which, being mixed with coal dust and a fourth part of clay, is employed to form an artificial and economical fuel. This being moulded in the form of bricks and balls, is sold in the shops of Peking. Waggon loads of coal dust are brought to that city for this sole purpose.

The coal merchants have also an intermediate quality between the classes two and three.

The following is the mode of Mining Coal in China:—It might be expected that in China, where most of the practical arts have, from time immemorial, been carried on with all the perseverance of that industrious people, the operations of mining coal would be conducted with some regard to science, in relation to sinking, draining, and extraction. We have, however, good authority, especially in regard to the environs of Peking, for stating that the process is still in a very imperfect state. Machinery there to lighten labour is unknown. They have not even an idea of the pumps, indispensable to draw off the water. If local circumstances allow, they cut drainage galleries; if not, they abandon the work whenever the inundation has gained too far upon them. The mattock and shovel, the pick and the hammer, are the mining instruments; the only ones, in fact, which the Chinese employ in working the coal. The water of the mine is emptied by the slow process of filling small casks, which are brought up to the surface by manual labour. Vertical shafts are not used. In working horizontal coal seams, the timber is expensive, and the materials cost two copecs per pound, equal to eight dollars fifty cents per ton; English wood being sold by weight in China.

The coals, when mined, are put into baskets, and drawn upon sledges, which are raised to the surface by manual strength. Each basket contains about three pounds of coal, and one man can raise about eight baskets in a day. This is

equivalent to 1,032 Russian pounds, or to 12 cwt. English, per day. The miners' wages are at the rate of 30 copecs a basket, which is equal to 240 copecs (copper currency) or 46 cents of United States currency per day, being 76 cents U. S. per ton.

Prices at Peking.—At the pit's mouth, this coal is sold for 60 copecs per lb., = 4 dollars 63 cents per ton of 20 cwt. It is then conveyed on the backs of mules through the mountains, and thence on camels to Peking, where the price is 1½ ruble, = ½ a franc, = 29 cents United States per lb.; which, if our calculation be correct, is equal to 11 dollars 60 cents United States, or £2 8s. 6d. per ton of 2,240 pounds English. We perceive, therefore, that the best of fuel is expensive at Peking, and thence the necessity for resorting to artificial compounds and substitutes.

There is, however, a sort of coal sold in that city at much lower price, particularly when it is mixed with one-half of coal dust. This coal, in 1840, sold for 1 ruble per pound, which is at the rate of 7 dollars 75 cents, equal to £1 12s. 3d. per ton. It is of indifferent quality, however, giving out but little heat, and is quickly consumed.

The compound fuel, consisting of coal dust and clay, is still prepared after the mode described by the missionaries last century, but its use is chiefly confined to the indigent classes.

A DAY IN THE SWAMP.—We do not know any spot in Melbourne where a day can be passed more profitably than in examining the various manufactories which are situated in the Swamp, on the banks of the Yarra. There we have a little busy world, about which the general reader knows almost nothing. We passed a couple of hours very pleasantly the other day in looking into the various establishments, and for the information of our readers we give a short sketch of the contents of these low dingy-coloured buildings, which the traveller sees in sailing along the Yarra. The first which deserve notice are the Boiling Down Establishments. Messrs. Watson and Wight were the first in the Port Phillip District to commence a boiling-down establishment, and this, too, at a time when our settlers were almost overwhelmed with disasters; indeed, their melting vats saved many from the insolvent court and ruin. Messrs. Watson and Wight were general merchants, and indeed still continue in trade, but they have now most extensive premises in the Swamp, which would repay the trouble of a visit. The first time the writer visited their establishment, it was upon a limited scale, but now it is almost a little town. In addition to melting down, these gentlemen are tanners, meat curers, &c.; they feed pigs with the refuse of the boilers; manufacture different kinds of oil, cure hides, and have an extensive coopering establishment. They have about fifty men at work, and several magnificent horses; we observed about fifty or eighty victims in the shape of fine bullocks standing ready; they are driven into the slaughter-house singly, and there killed: we were astonished to see the ease with which this operation was performed;—a man with a sharp spear hits the animal in the back of the head between the spine and the skull, the animal drops down dead, and it is skinned and cut up. The boilers are of great extent, and capable of rendering a large quantity of tallow, which is of superior quality. We visited a kiln for drying hams, and we believe the hams cured now in this colony are equal to any which come from England. We believe the proprietors have been remarkably successful in all their transactions, but not more so than their enterprising spirit deserves; at the same time it is lamentable to see persons who have conferred benefits by their inventions too often unfortunate and lingering in obscurity, and we are happy that in this instance enterprise and worth have had their reward. Not far from Messrs. Watson and Wight's establishment, is that erected by Messrs. Brodie and Cruikshank, which at a distance has a picturesque appearance; it has a long range of buildings on the

banks of the river, and a huge yard, enclosed, and ranges of covered sheds on every side: this establishment, which is under the management of Mr. Allan, is upon an extensive scale; it is, however, merely for boiling down. There are two other boiling establishments, one at the junction of the Salt Water River, which belongs to Mr. Raleigh; the other is further up, and now belongs to Mr. Kissock, the cattle broker. In the Swamp are two candle works, and soap manufactories; one belongs to James Jackson, Esq., the merchant; the other to Mr. Sawyer, the grocer. Soap of a very fine quality is manufactured at Mr. Jackson's establishment, which must outdo all foreign competition. Mr. Sawyer's manufactory has been but just erected, and we have not seen any of his soap. There are two or three large tanyards, and several slaughtering houses, all of which interested us, and we were much pleased with inspecting this little colony entirely devoted to money-making pursuits.—*Port Phillip Gazette, April 30.*

CENSUS OF THE CITY OF AGRA.—We have been politely favoured with the sight of a tabular census of the city of Agra and its environs in 1844-45. It has been prepared under the orders of our zealous Magistrate, and considerable care, labour, and method must have been bestowed upon it. This census, we learn, was formed by an employed agent who took Mohulla by Mohulla, at first counting each house, and then inquiring of the master of it as to the number of inhabitants it contained. The agent was assisted by the chowkeedars and sweepers of each Mohulla, the better to secure accuracy, and the strictest civility was enjoined. Any one refusing to state the number of persons residing in his house was not coerced in any way, but was invariably told that the *Sircar* had no other object in view except anxiety to form a correct census. No pertinacity or resistance was evinced by the people. The agent, being himself a resident of the city, was well known as a quiet, inoffensive man. In his inquiries he received no assistance from the Government Police, this being purposely and wisely avoided. As the agent gave in his papers of each Mohulla they were tested by the Tehseeldar of Huzoor Tehseel, and when pronounced correct by him were subjected to the scrutiny of the Cotwal; very few discrepancies were discovered. The preparation of the statement before us occupied, we understand, about 7 months, and no distinction is made in the reckoning between adults and children. In the city of Agra there are 68 Mohullas. The most populous neighbourhood is that of Nye-kee Munde, which contains 7,890 ranks, while Turpolee numbers only 16 inhabitants. The following is a brief abstract of the ample statement we are noticing:

Number of houses of Hindoos in the 68 Mohullas of tradespeople	3727	
Ditto ditto, of others	7123	
		10850
Ditto ditto, Mussulmans, of tradespeople	210	
Ditto ditto, of others	2267	
		4477
Grand total of houses		15327
Number of inhabitants in the 68 Mohullas, Hindoos. Of tradespeople	17777	
Ditto ditto, of others	35655	
		53432
Ditto Mussulmans, of tradespeople	11515	
Ditto ditto, of others	12137	
		23652
Grand total of inhabitants		77084

The distribution of inhabitants into classes according to trades and professions is as follows:—

Gold and Silversmiths	960
Blacksmiths and Ironmongers	1171
Braziers	358
Cutlers and Burnishers	72
Carpenters	1058
Tinkers	89
Cobblers, Shoemakers, and Curriers	1538
Painters	158
Workers in Glass or Glaziers	21
Oilmen	580
Firework Makers	50
Choorewallas	195
Gold and Silver Lace Makers and Wire Drawers	214
Bakers and Cooks	284
Butchers	933
Tailors	1271
Weavers	7133
Cotton Teazers	341
Watch Makers	6
Saddlers	44
Barbers	1357
Washerinen	1205
Women of Ill Fame	1176
Eunuchs	43
Bunneas, Shopkeepers, and Cloth Merchants	14046
Farriers	71
Shawl menders	94
Workers in silk	640
Nychabands	161
Draftsmen and Miniature painters	131
Thread makers	37
Potters	1193
Chintz Printers	386
Dyers	645
Maspons and stone cutters	1781
Bamboo Basket makers	725
Paper makers	35
Soap makers, Chandlers, &c.	59
Poulterers	128
Engravers and Lapidaries	28
Of all others	33,746
The environs of Agra, included in the villages on the lands of which they are built, are divided into 15 Mohullas, and contain a population	
Of Hindoos, being tradespeople	1128
Others	2566
Total	3694
Of Mussulmans, being tradespeople	
Others	452
	1370
Total	1822
	5516

The grand total of inhabitants in Agra and its suburbs is 103,572 souls, which is immense. The excess of Hindoos over Mussulmans is 8245. The inhabitants of bungalows, round about the city, i. e. gentlemen's servants and their families residing in their compounds, are not included in this census; they may be reckoned at about 3000 souls; neither are the inhabitants of bazars and villages in Military Cantonments.—*Agra Ukhbar, Sept. 24.*

IMPORTANT TO MANAGERS OF SUGAR ESTATES.—*Furbrick and Yeate's patent Sugar Pans.*—In the manufacture of what is termed Muscovado sugar, by the ordinary mode of concentrating the cane juice, viz., boiling in open pans or coppers, a most important consideration is, *rapid evaporation*; not only as respects the quality of the sugar, but also as regards the economy of fuel, labour, and time.

The Sugar Pans recently patented by Mr. R. B. Furbrick, Engineer, of Tonbridge, Kent, have for one of their objects the attainment of this great desideratum; but they also possess some other peculiar advantages equally important, which may be briefly stated as follows.

1st.—These pans present to the immediate action of the fire, an amount of available surface as compared with that of the common pans, of the most approved form, and occupying the like space, in the proportion of about 8 to 5 in favour of the former.

2nd.—That surface is disposed in a much more suitable manner for the economising of heat; for whilst the one is altogether inclined (more or less) to a *vertical*, the other maintains to a very considerable extent the *horizontal* position, which, it is well known, is the most efficient condition of heating surface that can be obtained, and moreover, it is unbroken by the intervention of any of those expensive and worse than useless masses of brickwork which connect the common pans. The junction of the patent pans being effected by screw-bolts, they can be easily and speedily removed and replaced, and that without disturbing any of the brickwork.

3rdly.—The facility and trifling expense of setting the patent pans, in comparison with that of the common ones, are points demanding especial notice. Nothing more is required for closing in the flues of the former than an upright straight wall of common brickwork beneath the rims along each side of the row of large pans, and the same with the addition of a partition wall between them (where two are used) for hanging the "Teaches." The difficulty and expense of closing in the flues around the common pans, and the great liability of the arches between them giving way, are matters of serious notoriety. Such accidents are by no means of unfrequent occurrence, and the loss, in a variety of ways, sustained thereby, very considerably augments the ordinary heavy expenses necessarily attending the setting and resetting of this description of sugar pan.

4thly.—Besides doing away with these arches, and the many consequent evils inherent in their adoption, the Patent Sugar Pans dispense also with those other equally barbarous and expensive adjuncts, "*Filing*" and "*Leading*."

5thly.—These pans admit of being made of wrought iron, which is more suitable for transporting to long distances, less liable to fracture, and more easily repaired than cast iron.

It is scarcely necessary to add another word to point out the superior claims of the Patent Sugar Pans over those in common use, as it is conceived that by comparing the two sketches, any one at all acquainted with the subject will at once distinguish and appreciate the relative merits of the two systems.

From the Commissioner of Patents' Report to Congress.—January, 1845.—"I visited in New York the sugar works of Messrs. Tyler and Mapes, which establishment has adopted the new process of sugar making invented by Professor Mapes. By this process they manufacture from 15,000 to 20,000lbs. of sugar per diem from common West India molasses, and generally of a quality superior to that made from the cane in Louisiana. They often use molasses which have become sour with good effect. I saw also the new evaporator, invented by Professor Mapes, at a sugar house in Vandam-street. This evaporator is of a small size, something less than five feet square and twelve inches deep. It was charged with a solution of sugar (say 125 gallons) at 30 degs. Reaum., and commenced boiling rapidly in less than 30 seconds from the time of turning on the steam. This pan will reduce sufficient of such liquor (taken lukewarm) to the proof or sugar point in 15 minutes to make 1,000lbs. of sugar, and this, as the proprietor informed me,

of a quality far superior to that which he was enabled to make by the usual process. Indeed so rapid is its action, that the same quality of sugar which required 12 hours for its manipulation is now furnished with ease in three hours, giving a large yield and of a better quality. As Professor Mapes is now taking patents in this country and abroad for this evaporator and a new filter, and some other improvements connected with sugar refining, I cannot with propriety describe his machines; but, from what I saw, they are calculated to produce a great change in the whole system of sugar making in Louisiana and the West India Islands; the largest evaporating 1,000 gallons, or more, of water per hour, and the smallest (such as described above) 230 or 250 gallons per hour."

We have been permitted to publish the following note, which will be found interesting to the cultivators of sugar estates. The machine which Mr. Hampden, M.P. alludes to is a new invention, for which the inventor has obtained a patent; and we understand it is considered superior to the Vacuum Pan lately found so valuable in the boiling of sugar, and is said to be cheaper:

"My dear M^r Chlery,

"I availed myself of your introduction to Mr. Gadesden, who politely afforded me every facility in investigating the merits of his patent. The result of my observation and inquiries was completely satisfactory. I believe the apparatus will accomplish all that is undertaken for it, *well*. The absence of ebullition in the liquor, suggests the idea of a very slow and tedious process, and I have heard this objection alleged against the plan; but all those who understand that the very principle of the improvement consists in evaporating at a low temperature, know that this is only a deception of the eye.

"I can give no better proof of the high opinion I have formed of Mr. Gadesden's pan than by ordering one for my estate in Barbados, and having advised the Directors of the Dhobah Company in India to order two for our factories.

"Yours, very truly,

"July 11th, 1845.

"R. HAMPDEN."

"Michael M^r Chlery, Esq."

"London, 15th July, 1845.

"I have been twice to the refinery of Messrs. Gadesden and Wainright, and saw Gadesden and Evans' Teache in operation yesterday. It has been much simplified—no medium is now used—and sugar is made by it at 180 degrees of heat, and the same result is obtained as by the Vacuum Pan; but I think it cannot be used without a separate engine of about 3 horse power to turn the wheel. Many gentlemen interested in sugar estates were present, amongst whom were Colonel Short and Mr. C. Marryat. The cost of the pan is £100 sterling, without the engine, which they offer to furnish without a boiler for £30 to £40 sterling."

"There is a French Chemist here who discolours sugar after it has been put in the cask, making black sugar perfectly white, with a loss of only 4 per cent. in weight, and at an expense of ten-pence per cwt. This is quite a new thing—no one knows the secret. The experiment was made last week at the refinery of Messrs. Gadesden and Wainright, and samples of the sugar were shown me. This will do away entirely with the present difficult and expensive process of bleaching and filtering through bullock's blood and animal charcoal. Very few persons know of this as yet, and parties interested were not pleased at my having been made aware that such a thing was possible, as the inventor had not yet got his patent."

We copy from the *Weekly Bulletin* of the Havana the following statement of the result of an experiment made to augment the product of the cane.

"We have just been informed that on the works of San Geronimo (Fenix), situated in that jurisdiction, the following experiment has been made. A sufficient quantity of sugar canes were ground so as to yield liquor to fill two pans.

The megass was then gathered together, and suffered to steep in water so hot, that the hand can be borne in it without inconvenience, and after a while the megass was reground: the canes yielded two pans of liquor, and the megass one; the liquor from the canes yielded 18 loaves, and that from the megass 10 loaves of equal size. From all this it must be inferred that the canes re-ground in this manner will yield 15 per cent. more than they did formerly.

- *"A manufactory which formerly yielded 10,000 loaves of sugar will produce 15,000 and probably more with the same quantity and quality of canes."*

"This extraordinary process will compensate for the great depreciation of sugar, a commodity which has been until now the great source of our wealth. The expense necessary to insure the aggregate will be moderate in comparison to the benefit; a mill-house to grind the megass, a shed containing the pans to heat the water for steeping, are more or less the means necessary.

"For the present we do no more than refer to the experiment according to the statement received from one of the neighbours, a rational and honourable planter. If we hurry this notice to the press, it is considering the importance of the subject.

"The French chemists (the best in the world) have long since established the fact, that the sugar cane contains a very large portion of saccharine matter after having been passed between the mill rollers: that such is the case is proved from the simple fact that megass is the most inflammable fuel which can be procured; it is not improbable that the saccharine matter which remains in the cane after it has been ground is richer than that which has been previously extracted, and if so, it would adhere with greater tenacity to the fibres, and the subsequent steeping of the megass in hot water must necessarily soften and separate the fibres, and render the extraction of the residue of the sweets much easier. If the quantity of extra sugar yielded was in the ratio of 10 to 18, then it is evidently a clear gain of more than 50 per cent., and not 15, as stated. There is one point, however, which deserves serious consideration, and which trial alone can solve, and that is, whether the megass be fit for fuel after the whole of the saccharine matter is extracted: we doubt it,—we do not think it would afford the intense heat necessary to granulate sugar; presuming even this should be the case, it does not lessen the value of the plan, if the account given be correct, for, in our opinion, the megass should be consigned to the cattle pens, to increase the quantity of manure, and coals or wood might be substituted. We may be told that wood is out of the question, that most of the Islands can scarcely furnish sufficient for their ordinary domestic wants, and that to import coals would not pay; but every estate has waste lands which, if planted in bamboos, would afford an abundant supply of good fuel at a very trifling cost. It would, however, pay well to import coals for the purpose, for one ton of coals will boil two tons of sugar; but if it only boiled one, it would pay handsomely, for it should be borne in mind, that the surplus sugar is clear gain, except the labour and fuel. We trust that the planters will be up and doing; for if they would give a fair trial to modern improvements, and call science to their aid, then the West Indies would again flourish."

COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

INDIA.

By the Express mail we are put in possession to-day, as we are going to press, of dates from Bombay to the 1st inst. and Madras and Calcutta to the 22nd November. The news is important. The prospect of a collision between the British and Sikh troops was becoming every day more imminent. The latter had already commenced their march towards the Sutlej, with the view of repelling the anticipated aggression. Meantime strong measures of defence had been adopted at Ferozepore, and as Sir Henry Hardinge has upwards of 50,000 troops at his disposal, any attempt on the part of the enemy to precipitate hostilities can hardly fail to be attended by their overwhelming defeat.

The most interesting item of intelligence from Scinde is of the establishment of an association for collecting information respecting the natural history, antiquities, statistics, dialects, &c. of that and the neighbouring countries.

The only local matter of any degree of home interest is the promulgation, by the Council of Education, of a plan for a Calcutta University, founded on the model of that of London. According to the published scheme the university is intended to be a body corporate, with a chancellor, vice-chancellor, and fellows, all of whom will be members or servants of the Government.

The Government has recently founded a college at Kishnaghur, about sixty miles from Calcutta. It is to be conducted precisely on the same plan as the Hindoo college here. Captain D. L. Richardson has been appointed Principal of the institution.

The Great Indian Peninsular Railway.—We understand that Mr. Chapman has again taken his departure from Bombay with the view of carrying on

investigations in reference to the Great Indian Peninsular Railway. He proceeds as far as Jooneer, and his observations will be directed to the geographical peculiarities of the country between that place and the Malsay Ghaut, with the view of collecting data that may serve to determine the important question of the point at which the mountain ascent is to be made. There are many objections to Khandalla, arising, we believe, chiefly from the steepness of the gradients; and the reports that have been received are represented as being eminently favourable to the selection of the Malsay Ghaut. This hill, though higher than Khandalla, is approached by a moderate slope, and the descent on the eastern side is said to be so gradual as to be scarcely perceptible. The settlement of this question will have an important bearing on another one which has lately been discussed, and the opinions on which have exhibited considerable diversity—we mean the locality of the railway terminus. Some are anxious that the line should be brought to Bombay itself, while others are of opinion that it should terminate on the main-land. The propriety of at once commencing with the construction of a rail as far as Tannah, has also received some share of consideration; not that any idea is entertained of deriving immediate profit from such a line, but because it must, sooner or later, be constructed, if the Company's project be carried out at all; and it is thought that by beginning early, not only will further needless loss of time be prevented, but a sort of school will be afforded for the instruction in railway matters of the native artisans and labourers who will be required for the more extended works hereafter. This proposition, however, has not yet undergone formal discussion. We are rejoiced to hear that the local govern-

ment and its officials have afforded Mr. Chapman every facility in their power for the prosecution of his inquiries; and we have no doubt that the courtesy and affability of this gentleman will continue to recommend him to the good offices of those with whom he comes in contact, in whatever direction he may proceed, or to whatever branch of the investigation his attention may be devoted.—*Bombay Times*, Oct. 25.

The Danish frigate, *Galaten*, Captain Bille, arrived in Calcutta a few days ago, previous to going down to the Nicobars with a view to re-establish the Danish colony there. A highly-efficient scientific staff is attached to her, for inquiry into the zoological and geological treasures of that locality. The zeal and careful vigilance with which these preparations have been made by the Danish Government for a thorough development of the resources of so petty and distant a Colony, reflect but little credit on the improvidence of our own authorities in such matters.

A bank, the prospectus of which is now in circulation, is about to be established at the Portuguese settlement of Goa, with a capital of five lakhs of rupees.

Sir H. C. Montgomery, Bart., and F. M. Lewis, Esq., have been appointed commissioners for receiving charge of the settlement of Tranquebar from the Danish authorities, by the Madras Government.

The Exports of Indigo from Calcutta for the twelve months ending 31st October are as follows, viz. :

	Chests	Pt. mds.
To Great Britain	26,393	57,871
France	10,363	36,193
North America... ..	615	2,244
Foreign Europe	12	48
Red Sea, Bombay, and Gulp	1,968	6,314
All other parts... ..	9	21
Total	39,390	142,691

The Kareen Nee Country.—Several writers in the Calcutta journals have advocated our occupation of the Kareen Nee country, from an apprehension that its cession to the Burmese would put a stop to the commercial intercourse between them and this Province. The Kareen Nee country lies to the north-

ward of the Tenasserim province, on the western or Burmese side of the Salween, the intermediate territory between our northern and their southern boundary being occupied by Shans. The Red Karens are apparently a half-civilised race, who have always asserted and defended their independence of all around them. The country is bounded to the northward and eastward by Shan States dependent on Ava. It is said to produce tin in unlimited abundance, not, as in these provinces, collected from the beds of running streams, but in large masses of the ore on the sides of the mountains. It is the grand source of the timber trade of these provinces, and an outlet for British goods, and from which our commissariat is supplied with cattle brought down by the Shans. The Karens, or at least some parties of them, have, on more occasions than one, offered to place their country under our sway, but no attention seems hitherto to have been paid to such offers. Our occupation of the country, therefore, will entail but little expense, while the advantages will be indisputably greater than what we have incidentally alluded to, as there is much to engage the attention of traders.—*Maulmain Chronicle*, Sept. 10.

CEYLON.—It is evidently conducive to the well-being of any colony, that her articles of export should be as numerous and as various as possible; for, the more channels we may have for the efflux of her own superfluous products, the more avenues will there be opened to the influx of foreign capital and wealth.

We have long been convinced that our green isle had other resources to fall back upon, beyond those afforded by cinnamon, sugar, the cocoa tree and coffee; and a Jaffna correspondent has brought to our knowledge the existence of what, though it may not, perhaps, become a staple commodity, may most assuredly be made a valuable addition, or rather *additamentum*, to the luxuries and revenues of this Colony.

We are informed that at Jaffna large, well-coloured and fine-flavoured grapes are produced in great abundance twice

a year. Considering the warm and equable climate of that place and the cheapness of labour, together with the simplicity of the process required in the fermentation of wine, we are much surprised that no attempt, or at least no attempt on a large scale, has hitherto been made to supply Ceylon with that necessary from the produce of her own shores. We hear that, some two or three years ago, a Mr. Ribergh did make wine, but was prevented proceeding with the trade by the interference of the Government agent, Mr. Dyke. This interference was, we suppose, based upon a clause in the Arrack Ordinance, giving the government agent the power of refusing the possession of a still to any one who may injure the revenue therewith. On these points, however, we are not very well informed, and we shall feel greatly obliged to Mr. Ribergh, or any other gentleman well acquainted with the subject or the circumstances, who will address to us any communication he may be able to make relating to the cultivation of the Jaffna grapes.—*Ceylon Herald*, Oct. 7.

PINANG.—From private sources we learn that Mr. Mackey, of the firm of Messrs. Mackey and Co. of Calcutta, has been appointed Danish Consul, and that he has been directed by the Danish Government to take possession of the Nicobar Islands, and, moreover, that it is intended sending to Theresa, the most westerly of the group, five hundred Chinese to clear the jungle, &c.—*Pinang Gazette*, Oct. 18.

An extensive sanatory hotel, or bungalow, is about to be built on one of the Pinang mountains, for the accommodation of invalids from Calcutta and other parts of India.

We hear that several persons have, during the week, been visiting Province Wellesley in search of land for sugar-cane cultivation, and, we believe, there is a probability of a piece of land in one of the northern districts of the interior being applied for, for the purpose. We hope our information may be correct, and we will be happy if the northern divide with the southern districts the attention of agriculturists.

It is said that Mr. Horsman, M.P.,

in connexion with a mercantile firm of this place, is interested in sugar-cane cultivation here.—*Pinang Gazette*.

CHINA.

We have Hong Kong papers to the 31st October.

G. C. Holdforth, Esq., has been appointed Coroner for the Island of Hong Kong, pending the receipt of Her Majesty's pleasure.

A. D. Sinibaldo de Mas has been appointed Consul-General for Spain in China. We are sorry to learn the state of this gentleman's health is such as to require his return to Europe for a time. D. Jose Vincente Jorge is appointed to the Vice-Consulate of Macao.

It is understood that the British and American Consuls at Canton have each been negotiating with the Provincial Governor for a removal of the restraints which continue to be put on foreigners. At all the other free ports, foreigners have free ingress to the cities or towns within the walls, and are also permitted to walk for a reasonable distance into the country. At Canton, however, the same insolent restrictions which for two hundred years have been put upon strangers continue, doubtless with the intention of degrading them in the eyes of the native population. We cannot report that Messrs. Macgregor and Forbes, the respective Consuls for England and America, have succeeded in obtaining for foreigners the privilege of entering the city and the country in its immediate vicinity. His Excellency Sir John Davis has publicly intimated his determination to have this privilege conceded, and it is therefore believed that before the evacuation of Chusan by the British troops, it will be arranged satisfactorily.

Keying, the celebrated Chinese diplomatist, is expected here on a visit in the course of next month. It is rumoured that his object is the settlement of various matters which this Government insist upon before they give up the island of Chusan, which by the treaty requires to be abandoned in January. It is probable that His Excellency will

demand a removal of the restrictions which the Chinese have put upon native vessels wishing to visit this harbour for the purpose of traffic; also a removal of the restrictions upon the Foreign Resident at Canton, and other restrictions, which there are grounds for believing are put upon foreign trade at Foo-chow-foo. It is desirable that Chusan continue an open port, and His Excellency will probably press this point as strongly as can be done, without making it an absolute demand.

A² Return of the Quantities and Value of Merchandise Imported into the Port of Shanghai in 25 British Vessels, of 6,578 tons, from the Countries and Places undermentioned, during the Half Year ending 30th June, 1845.

Tarif.	Denomination of Article.	From what Countries and Places Imported.	Reported or estimated Value in Sterling, exchange 4s. 3d. per dol.
N			
	<i>Manufactures of Cotton.</i>		
13	White longel. Pes.	150299 Liverpool	128108
	" Grey do.	289356 & Hong-	196835
	" Dyed do.	14855 kong	12510
	" Drills, white ...	550 Do.	487
	" Do. grey ...	268 Do.	210
	" Chin z.	21145 Do.	15118
	" Cambr es.	210 Do.	250
	" H. ndkerchiefs Doz	3967 Do.	1074
	" Veiveteens Val.		3124
14	Cotton Yarn ... Pic.	756	4725
	<i>Manufactures of Wool.</i>		
47	Habit cl. ths, Span.		
	Stripes, &c. Yds.	115005 Do.	35730
	" Long Kils. Pes.	5705 Do.	10696
	" Camlet, Engl. ...	1890 Do.	9843
	" Do. Dutch ...	100 Do.	792
	" Blankets Pra.	81 Do.	85
	Woollens not enumerated. Val.	Do.	2368
	<i>Metals, viz.</i>		
30	Iron, Pigs. Pic.	1409 Singapore	734
	" Do. Rods & bars ...	10561 & Hongk.	5168
	" Lead, Pigs.	1380 Do.	890
	" Tin, Slabs.	291 Do.	1091
	<i>Miscellaneous.</i>		
19	Flints.	4016 Do.	1171
20	Glass & Glassware. Val.	Liverpool	1018
	" Gambier. Pic	272 Straits,	147
	" Pepper.	1015 &c.	1163
	" Rattans.	3154 Do.	2954
37	Saltpetre.	267 Do.	445
	" Indigo.	1632 Do.	1508
46	Woods, Sandal ...	76 Do.	190
	" Do. Ebony.	700 Do.	204
	" Do. Sapan.	88 Do.	50
45	Wines. Doz.	689 Do.	1148
	" Sundries. Val.	Do.	2612
	Total Value		442757

A Return of the Quantities and Value of Merchandise Exported from the Port of Shanghai, in 29 British vessels, of 7367 tons burthen, to the Countries and Places undermentioned, during the Half Year ending 30th June, 1845.

Denomination of Articles.		To what Place and Country Exported.	Reported or estimated Value in Sterling.
Alum. Pic.	1501	Hongkon.	470
37 Musk. Cat.	67	Do.	837
45 Rhubarb. Pic.	73	Do.	354
46 Silk, Raw, viz. —			
" Taatlee.	805	Hongkon.	
" Taysam.	405	1300 London,	105614
" Yune-Fa.	90	Liverpl., & Cork.	
55 Tea, viz. —			
" Congou.	19759		
" Souchong.	627		
" Pouchong.	107		
" Hung Muey			
" Twank y.		Hongkon.	
" Hyson.		26507 London,	146419
" Hyson Skin		Liverpl.,	
" Yo. Hyson.	1470	Sieily &	
" Imperial.	116	Cork.	
" Gunpowder.	357		
" Miscellaneous			
" Gypsum. Pic.	3450	Chusan & Hongkon.	540
" Hemp. Val.		London.	63
" Tallow, Veget.		Do.	52
Total Value			257339

The markets of Canton and Shanghai are glutted with manufactured goods, especially cotton fabrics, and we fear that the mercantile advices by this mail will be of a gloomy and unsatisfactory nature. Shippers have pressed goods upon the market at a rate which even the enormously-increased demand will scarcely warrant, and with every desire to protect their interest, the agent in China will be unable to dispose of them at remunerating prices. It is estimated that the imports for the current year will amount to three millions of pieces of cotton shirting; before the treaty the import of that staple article never exceeded five hundred and twenty thousand pieces.

AUSTRALASIA.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—Sydney papers of the 17th of August describe a better

condition of affairs in the Colony, and state that frugal habits, combined with steady industry, have produced a great change in the prospects of the settlers. In the progress of business there is a satisfactory feature of the exports for the year 1844 exceeding the imports, which has, no doubt, arisen from the new trade of tallow melting, large quantities having been all through last year sent forward to this country. Another favourable feature in the state of the banks was, that the amount of cash in deposit exceeded former returns.

The latest number of the *Sydney Herald* contains a general summary of the state of the Colony, of much more value than a few isolated facts. According to this statement, there is no doubt whatever but all the various interests in the Colony have been steadily progressing in improvement; although, as was formerly mentioned, the revenue for 1844 exhibited a decrease. The deficiency is accounted for by a more frugal mode of living on the part of the settlers, combined with more steady industry, having reduced the importation of many articles of luxury upon which duties are levied. For the first time in the history of the Colony, the value of the exports had exceeded that of the imports for the year 1844. The amount of the former was £1,128,000, whilst the latter was only £931,000, leaving a balance in favour of the Colony of £197,000. This return contrasts strongly with the trade for the year 1840, when the Colony was presumed to have arrived at the zenith of its prosperity, but a prosperity which subsequent events proved to be hollow and fallacious. In that year the imports amounted to upwards of £3,000,000, whilst the exports were only £1,400,000, thereby leaving a balance against the Colony of upwards of £1,600,000, the result of which was almost universal bankruptcy of both consignees and recipients. Our modern political economists will, however, dispute the assumption that an excess of exports will insure the permanent prosperity of the Colony any more than an excess of imports, the criterion with them being an exact balance between the two.

There is another test of progress given, however, which admits of no dispute. On the 1st of January of the present year the number of deposit accounts in the savings banks was 2828, and at the latest date they were 3131, being an increase from the commencement of the year of 303. The amount of the deposits at the first period was £128,176, and at the second £161,000, being an increase in seven months of £32,824.

There is, at the same time, much less asperity manifested against the governing power, in consequence of concessions made respecting the pasturage beyond the boundaries of location. At present, there seems to be no want of the class of clerks and shopmen, nor of mechanics, in the colony, but rather an excess of those who had emigrated with the view of obtaining a livelihood without much manual labour. The classes now in requisition are farm labourers, either agricultural or pastoral, and female domestic servants, who will all find reasonably good wages; small capitalists of frugal habits would also be certain of success.

There is also given an abstract of the Revenue of the Colony of New South Wales—exclusively of the district of Port Phillip—for the quarters ending 30th June 1844 and 1845. From this document it appears, that upon certain branches of revenue there has been a decrease of £4,751 15s. 6d. and on others an increase of £5,187 7s. 10d. leaving a net increase on the quarter of £45 12s. 4d. The great items of decrease have been in Post Office collections—explained by the statement that it is occasioned by arrears which have arisen in County Post Offices, in consequence of the account-clerks having been engaged in preparing various returns, required by the Post Office commission—by Court Fees—and by repayment of monies expended on the treatment of convicts in the Lunatic Asylum!

The Colony seems to be looking up once more, and recovering steadily from its late depression.

NEW ZEALAND.—Our files of the *Nelson Examiner* extend to the 12th July, and we are glad to learn that up to that time all remained quiet in

Cook's Straits. In fact Nelson appears the most prosperous, or perhaps we should say the least unprosperous, of any of the New Zealand settlements. There are fewer natives in the Southern than in the Northern Island, which is probably the cause why the Nelson settlers remain almost entirely unmolested by them. Of course, during the present alarming state of affairs, trade, except that connected with eating and drinking, is at a stand-still, and great distress prevails among the labouring classes. Commissions for raising two companies of militia had been received at Nelson, the police magistrate being appointed Captain Commandant.

In the late numbers of the *Wellington Independent* are many notices, showing what the Colonists are doing towards increasing their exports and lessening their imports:—

New Zealand Timber.—The mairi is found to answer the purposes of box wood. In this journal we have used both the box and mairi, but the latter has been found the best for wood-cuts. Small box in England sells at sixpence per pound; large box, at ninepence. It is unusual, we believe, to obtain box of more than one foot square; and then it is very apt to split. We have seen many logs of mairi on our beach more than two feet square. These are the days for illustrated newspapers and other publications; and we should therefore say the demand for this purpose alone would secure a first-rate market in England for the mairi of this Colony, immediately that the trade is made acquainted with its merits.—*Independent.*

MAURITIUS.

From the Mauritius we have intelligence to the middle of September. H. M. S. Conway had returned to this island from Madagascar, after having made a fruitless attempt to re-open negotiations with the Queen. Captain Kelly found the inhabitants well prepared for defence, who opened a smart fire upon the crew of the boats as they approached the shore. Captain Kelly,

however, subsequently succeeded in sending a communication to the Queen without any favourable result. She was prepared and determined to repel force by force—and she is even said to have given orders to her subjects to refuse water and fire-wood to the crews of all English and French ships.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

We have Cape Town papers to the 1st November, and journals from Graham's Town to the 24th October.

The irrepressible energies of commerce are extending British colonisation along the vast seaboard of Southern Africa, while the squatters are pushing into the interior with not less rapidity. To compare a map of the settlements of twenty years ago with a recent one affords much food for speculation. On the East Coast, the trade of Port Elizabeth appears to be augmenting very considerably, and attracting towards it the products of Caffreland, and as its newspaper the *Eastern Province Herald* has it—"we are convinced that before many years are past, it will have run lines of connexion with every accessible point of Eastern Africa, from Algoa to Delagoa Bay and beyond, and that out of the mere 'forwarding station' to Graham's Town, will be reared the greatest mart not only of Cape, but of Eastern Africa produce." In the West, again, the progress is no less cheering. Some time ago a commercial establishment was formed at Walwich Bay on the S.-W. Coast; and already its importance has so far increased as to obtain for it a contract to supply the island of St. Helena with meat for a twelvemonth. A conductor of the establishment is about to make a tour of 500 miles, in order by opening out new resources to extend the island trade of the settlement. Another commercial venture has within a few months been started at Peacock's Bay, a spot about 10 miles to the southward of Orange River, with the view of rendering accessible the mineral riches (especially in copper) of Namaqua Land, an object in which it would appear the natives are most anxious to co-operate.

The following articles of valuable produce collected in the country to the north by the enterprising trader Mr. David Hume, and whose station is Latako, were sold in the public market of Graham's Town, on 30th October. The karosses, or skin mantles, were of beautiful workmanship, and displayed in a very favourable light the industry as well as the ingenuity of the Bechuana tribes from whom they are obtained.

		£.	s.	d.	A. N. Rds.
Ivory	1600 lbs at	0	4	3½	4586 5
Ostrich Feathers	92 "	5	14	6	7038 0
Do.	7 "	1	12	3	150 4
Do. (black)	6 "				51 0
Karosses (skin mantles).....	300 no.				3218 1
Lionskins	6 "				10 2
Wolf skins	3 "				3 0
Skinned do.	— —				62 5
Rhinoceros horns	30 "				34 1
Horns of other animals	— —				19 6
Carrots, ties, sundry	— —				82 5
Total,					Rds. 15,256 5
Or in British Currency					£1,144 5

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA. — *Opening of the first Jamaica Railway, Kingston and Spanish Town.*—This anxiously-anticipated event took place on the 21st November. In order to invest the circumstance with the just degree of importance which so auspicious an event in the annals of Jamaica demanded, his Excellency the Governor, the Lieutenant-Governor, the several heads of departments, the Hon. Members of the Council and Assembly, and a large number of the more wealthy and influential members of the community, were invited to attend, — and a most propitious day rendered this attendance very general and numerous. His Excellency was conducted at about half-past eleven o'clock to the handsome state carriage which has been provided by the Company for the accommodation of her Majesty's Representative, and of which we shall give a full and accurate description in a future number, and, the Company's new Engine "The Projector" having been attached, the train,

consisting of some eight or ten well-filled carriages, started off on the first Railway excursion.

At Spanish Town the Governor descended, and proceeded to examine the stations in course of erection, and the other works and designs of the Company at that terminus, during which period the engine was adjusted to the other end of the train, and his Excellency and the other passengers having taken their seats, the train started on its return at one o'clock, reaching the Kingston station in about 40 minutes. The speed on the return was, during a portion of the distance, considerably increased, a maximum speed of thirty miles an hour having been attained; but on nearing Kingston the rapidity was very greatly diminished, with the same objects as those already stated. A second trip was shortly afterwards made, when a large number of other persons who had been favoured with tickets took their seats, and were similarly taken along the line and back, the return train on this occasion performing the distance (nearly twelve miles) in twenty-five minutes.

Lord Elgin, in returning thanks, spoke as follows:—"To come to the business of the day—a day, gentlemen, most auspicious for Jamaica—(Cheers)—I do think, gentlemen, that the thanks of the country are due to those enterprising persons, to celebrate the consummation of whose brilliant project this meeting has assembled, and whose industry and talent have brought that project to so successful an issue. (Cheers.) I remember, when the project of laying down a railway between Kingston and Spanish Town was first brought forward, there were very many, though I do not plead to having been of the number, who predicted that such a work could not be completed in this island, and who went so far as to say that if the engineering difficulties were not insurmountable, yet that such an undertaking would not afford a remunerating return to the capitalist.—Gentlemen, the first part of this prediction has signally failed, as we have seen to-day; and I hope, and most sincerely believe, that the latter portion

of it will prove equally fallacious. I shall always look back as upon one of the most satisfactory circumstances of my life that I have been so fortunate as to be permitted to give my humble assistance at the opening of the first Railway in the British West Indies." (Cheers.)

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

CANADA.—We have Montreal papers to the 9th December, and Toronto and Kingston journals to the 1st December. The papers of all shades of party are full of regrets for the departure of Lord Metcalfe, who came home by the previous steamer, being obliged by the state of his health to retire from the fatigues of his responsible office.

The following is his lordship's parting address:—

"Monklands, Montreal,
"November 25th, 1845.

"The Governor-General cannot take leave of Canada in the sudden manner which the state of his health renders necessary, without conveying to the inhabitants of the Province his fervent wishes for their prosperity and happiness. He does not quit his post in pursuit of a cure for a complaint which is supposed to be incurable, nor for the preservation of a life which could not be better disposed of than in the service of Her Majesty, and in the exercise of honest endeavours to promote the welfare of this splendid Province, but solely because the increasing ravages of his disorder deprive him of the power of performing the duties of his office with the requisite efficiency. Under these circumstances, Her Majesty having most graciously signified her acceptance of his resignation, he is under the necessity of proceeding to a port of embarkation without delay, lest the approaching severity of the season should render his removal unsafe in the present state of his health.

"Whether the remaining term of his existence be brief or protracted, he can never cease to regard with extreme interest the progress of affairs

in this portion of Her Majesty's dominions.

"In retiring from his station, he has the satisfaction of believing that the prosperity of the Province is rapidly rewarding the industry and enterprise of its inhabitants, and that political dissensions and animosities have in a great degree subsided. He trusts that these blessings will continue and increase.

"In repeating the anxious desire which he will ever retain for the welfare of Canada, he cannot refrain from expressing his grateful sense of the cordial support which he has received from the loyalty and public spirit of its inhabitants, during the period of his administration of the government.

"METCALFE."

"Lord Metcalfe," says the *Montreal Courier*, "did not tender his resignation to Her Majesty, but we are informed that the state of his lordship's health being known to the Home Government, they very considerably offered to relieve him of his onerous office. We have not heard who is to be Lord Metcalfe's successor. The Government will, in the interim, be administrated by the Earl of Cathcart."

Canada is not free from the potatoe disease. In the western districts the crops are damaged to a serious extent. The projected fortifications and improvements on the frontier were on a magnificent scale, and will take two years to complete.

The Back Townships.—We had yesterday the pleasure of seeing and conversing with Mr. Birdshall, who has just returned from an official tour through the country north of Kingston examining the quality of the soil, and the wild lands between Kingston and the River Ottawa. Mr. Birdshall states it to be his opinion that a very large settlement may be immediately effected in that quarter, with great advantage to those who may choose to avail themselves of the opening, as well as to the town of Kingston. He is at present on his way to Bytown, to receive reports from the various scouts sent out under his direction. This tour is merely preliminary to a survey, which, we under-

P R E F A C E .

WHEN we adventured upon the establishment of this Periodical, in January, 1844, there were then several journals in existence devoted to the advocacy of Colonial and Indian affairs; others have started up in the interval; but, with the single exception of one esteemed weekly contemporary, we are now left alone in the peculiar field of literature which it is our province to discuss. Whether these changes have resulted from a lack of support, or a diminished degree of interest for Colonial affairs in the public mind, we will not take upon ourselves to determine. We, at least, have no cause to complain of a want of support, for our progress has been more rapid than we had ever anticipated.

This success could never have been obtained, had we not commenced the publication with a determination of purpose, prepared to combat indifference and overcome supineness as regarded Colonial affairs;—with a tried connexion of literary friends, some personal experience in Colonial matters, a widely-extended correspondence, and great advantages in universal and early information.

It is a source of pleasure to know, that the large body of subscribers which has been increasing month by month, has been gained neither by interest nor by canvass, by no advocacy of party opinion, but solely by honesty of purpose, by efforts at impartiality, and by the originality and authenticity of our intelligence. The newspapers of each political party have borne willing testimony to these sources of our success, and we are grateful for their good opinion. Our cordial acknowledgments are also due to our Colonial contemporaries for frequent approving notices; and we labour under lasting obligations to many of them for hints and advice, and early information on several important occasions.

Our Colonial Summary is no mere transcript from the daily journals, but a careful compilation of the Colonial intelligence furnished by private correspondents, and the immense mass of foreign newspapers exclusively received by each mail from all parts of the world.

Scorning the anonymous, and willing to do justice to the merits, the talent, and the reputation of the writers, we have published from time to time our list of contributors—a list which includes the names of men of great literary ability, held in high public estimation, and thoroughly acquainted with the subjects which they have taken upon themselves to discuss.

During the past twelve months, we have received valuable articles and cordial support from a large number of new correspondents in the

Colonies, and from several official personages, whose names we are not here at liberty to mention.

We have endeavoured to bring more prominently into notice the requirements and interests of our numerous Colonies—to pourtray their natural resources and capabilities—and to inculcate doctrines, and recommend measures, which should add to their power, wealth, and prosperity,—and in this we trust we have succeeded.

Thus much for ourselves—pass we on now to a few words of comment on public affairs. Let us hope that the coming year may be productive of more useful legislation for the Colonies, and less idle discussion; that a better system of Colonial management may prevail, which shall result in a greater freedom from party spirit—a display of more talent and intelligence in Colonial policy—greater stability of purpose in our rulers—less cant, and less yielding to the pressure from without.

Change, merely for the sake of change, is to be deprecated; but the change in the administration of the Colonial Office which has just taken place must necessarily be for the better. The uncertainty of the measures intended to be introduced, has been hitherto the great bane to improvement in the Colonies. Give the West Indies—give every Colony but timely notice of prospective changes, and they will be prepared for any fiscal or general alterations that may be considered necessary; but they are usually the last to be consulted on or advised of such matters. The new Colonial Secretary has ample materials to try his hand at, in New South Wales, New Zealand, the West Indies, and Hong Kong, each of which cries loudly for redress on many points of grievance. Above all, at a time of commercial difficulty—of apprehended scarcity at home—let him look to systematic Emigration as a ready means of relief and of blessing both to the mother-country and her dependencies in the East and West;—by settling and cultivating the fertile lands of her Colonies, Great Britain will be less dependent on foreign supplies, and a tenfold impetus will be given to her manufactures, in supplying the vastly-additional Colonial demand that would thereby be created.

London, Dec. 27, 1845.

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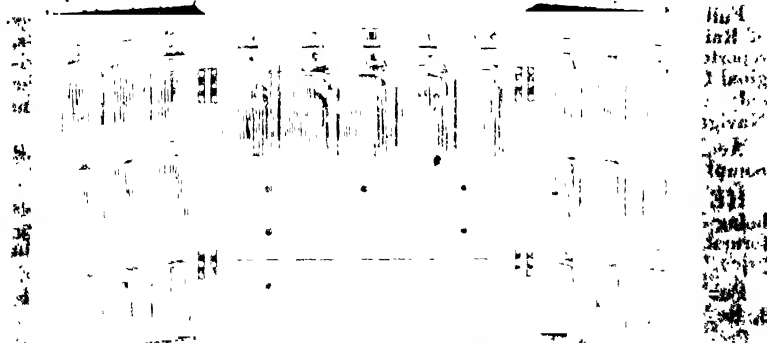
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SIMMONDS'S COLONIAL MAGAZINE.

No. 26.]

FEBRUARY, 1846.

[Vol. VII.]

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- LATEST DATES -

OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWSPAPERS, PRICES CURRENT, AND SHIPPING
LISTS, received at the COLONIAL MAGAZINE OFFICE, to the 30th January.

Places.	Dates.	Places.	Dates.	Places.	Dates.	Places.	Dates.
Europe—Mediterr.		Tobago	Dec 30	Wellington	July 20	Newfoundland—	
Gibraltar	Jan. 19	Trinidad	Dec 19	East Indies—		St. John's ...	Dec. 25
Malta	Jan. 13	Africa—		Mauritius	Nov 1	Harb.-Grace	Dec. 18
Corfu	Jan. 8	Algiers	Jan. 18	Bombay	Dec. 15	Canada—	
West Indies—		C. of Good Hope	Nov 24	Calcutta	Dec. 13	Montreal ...	Dec. 27
Antigua	Dec 25	Grah. Town	Nov 17	Madras	Dec. 16	Quebec	Dec. 24
Bahamas	Dec 18	Australasia—		Delhi	Dec. 9	Kingston ...	Dec. 23
Barbados	Dec 20	N. South Wales		Agra		Toronto	Dec. 18
Berlice	Dec 18	Sydney	Aug 17	Ceylon	Dec. 16	United States—	
Bermuda	Dec 21	Geelong	Aug 16	Pinang	Dec. 9	Boston	Jan. 3
Dominica	Dec 24	Maitland	Aug 14	Singapore	Dec. 9	New York ...	Jan. 8
Grenada	Dec 24	Port-Phillip	Aug 23	Hong Kong	Nov 20	Philadelphia	Jan. 8
Gujana, British	Dec 17	South Australia—		British N. America—		Baltimore ...	Jan. 1
Mayannah	Dec 10	Adelaide	Aug 22	New Brunswick—		Washington ...	Dec. 29
Roadruce	Dec 10	Western Australia—		St. John	Dec. 31	Charleston ...	Dec. 20
Jamaica, Kings	Dec 24	Perth	Sept 6	Fredericton	Dec. 24	New Orleans	Dec. 3
Falmouth	Dec 16	Van Diemen's Land—		Nova Scotia—		South America—	
Mont. Bay	Dec 16	St. John's Town	Aug 14	Hellifax	Jan. 3	Rio de Janeiro	Dec. 18
St. Christopher	Dec 25	Launceston	Aug 6	Pictou	Dec. 31	Monte Video ...	
St. Lucia	Dec 25	New Zealand—		Yarmouth	Dec. 30	Buenos Ayres	Nov. 18
St. Vincent	Dec 25	Auckland	June 20	Prince Edw. Isl.		Valparaiso ...	Oct. 2
St. Thomas		Nelson	July 12	Charlotte-town	Dec. 27		



SIMMONDS'S COLONIAL MAGAZINE.

SUGGESTIONS FOR PROMOTING EMIGRATION TO THE BRITISH COLONIES.

BY COLIN T. CAMPBELL, ESQ.

WHEN the excitement of troublous times has subsided, people, or the reflective portion at least, have time to consider the events which have passed away. The present are not what were formerly troublous times,—but they are times in which we are not free from trouble, excitement, or turmoil; nor do they seem likely to give place to pleasant reflection and sweet peace. Something must minister to the debased appetites, the greedy and covetous desires, and rouse the latent feelings of men, who in a measure live *for*, and more certainly *by* the people. But when the senses become sobered, the prurient desires and appetites, and morbid feelings of the victims to popular excitement have been fully satiated—when all has passed over as a “day-dream,” a sense of shame, of loss of moral courage and vigour ensues, and the mind and physical resources are feeble to a painful degree. To recover what has thus been lost and shamefully abused is the province of a physician, who not unfrequently has to deal with persons both ignorant and obstinate, prejudiced and “peculiar.” The task is one of difficulty, sometimes of danger: but patience and perseverance, with a discriminate use of restoratives, will generally restore what has been sacrificed.

Popular excitement, considered politically, is an evil almost inseparable from Government, and one, too, which requires all the tact and talent of a good and a wise minister to keep within bounds. In all ages, some subject has been found to furnish food, mental meat and drink, to popular excitement; in all, an Agitator to proclaim, enlarge, magnify the repeated grievance to his own profit and advantage, regardless of the sacrifices of nationality, self-respect, or a deference to others. This is the less to be wondered at when it is remembered most political agitators are persons either of insignificant origin and narrow minds, or individuals once respectable, who, having forfeited all claim to the good will and wishes of their fellow-countrymen, no longer possess anything to lose, and in a change or alteration, under a false impression of gratitude they may have created, have the chance of gaining something.

It is not, therefore, surprising that the nineteenth century, remarkable for its gigantic strides in moral and intellectual advancement, and above all for its decided abhorrence of war and national irruption, should be able to boast of an O'Connell, a Cobden, or a W. J. Fox, in our country—men characterised by all the traits and peculiarities of ministers to popular excitement. Though these worthies were satisfied to their hearts' content in accomplishing their schemes, in succeeding beyond the expectations of *their* superior wisdom, yet, unless eaten up with their own zeal, would they be able to refrain from resuming their previous occupation; or to use a vulgar, but, like all proverbs, true description, would they be able to refrain from returning, like the sow, to their wallowing in the mire.

But we are taught to view all things as regards ourselves as for the best; and we should consider, as regards others, that "*errare est humanum.*"

It is not every one who knows, and among those who do know, it is not every one who keeps in mind, the excellent moral maxim of Cicero—*Sapientis est proprium nihil quod penitere possit, facere.* It may not be inapplicable to those who are liable to, and to those who take an active part in public excitement, should they find time amidst their own continual excitement, and in their least fevered state, to weigh it in their minds. *Quantum sufficit* on this head, however.

We must not, however, overlook the fact, that at the present time, public excitement has almost, if not quite, reached its height; that an inertia, a languor, will inevitably be the result. That everlasting subject—the Corn Laws—appears now to be fully exhausted, and its oppositionists on the eve of achieving a complete victory. Railways, those useful instruments in the hands of civilised man, have generated the steam of further excitement almost to bursting; and as many a "Clenmuchkin" scheme has been brought before the notice of "bulls and bears" and speculators of every grade, not a few have been bitten by the wholesale gambling they carry as "part and parcel" of them. This alone will be more or less severely felt; and a reaction will be necessary to a perfect recovery of a healthy state. Where the remedy lies will, of course, differ with the opinion of almost every individual: but as each is at liberty to follow his own preconceived opinions, and the opinion of one altogether uninfluenced by the change is not offered in the presumption that it ought to be received and acted upon, the following plan may be worthy the consideration of some.

One legitimate means of causing a reaction in the numbness of commerce that does already, or will by and bye exist, is increasing and enlarging its operations; and as the means are at hand, they should naturally be carried out as far as practicable. Britain's greatest resources lie in her Colonies: by means of them her commerce is susceptible of considerable increase, her population of permanent relief; by enlarging them and adding to their population, she multiplies resources which keep multiplying in themselves; by directing enterprise and capital to them, by fostering and supporting them, she

might almost be wholly independent of foreigners and foreign supplies. In the position we are now placed, and at all times, it is as much individual interest to promote our Colonies' welfare and prosperity as the nation's; and frequently we may do this much more successfully and advantageously than through Government agency.

I would suggest, in all humility, the establishment of an association having directly in object the promotion and encouragement of Emigration to all our Possessions. The *modus operandi* might be modified from the following outline:—

- I. That an association be formed consisting of gentlemen engaged in general, commercial, and Colonial operations, to be called "The Society for Promoting Emigration to the British Colonies."
- II. That the Society be open to all classes, in favour of all Colonies; and that its assistance be extended towards all who may require it, subject to a full approval according to rules respecting morality, sobriety, and general respectability.
- III. That the Society be governed by the following regulations:—
 1. That so soon as a given amount of capital shall have been subscribed (say £5,000), it shall be considered established.
 2. That it afford assistance to the extent of one-fourth of its capital, *in part* towards the emigration and first settlement of young married couples intending to become permanent settlers and cultivators of the soil; that the remaining three-fourths of the subscription be appropriated to the emigration of respectable parties of all trades and ages, up to fifty, as much as possible in equal proportions of sexes.
 3. That the Society exercise no further control over the parties so emigrating than as regards the first class, giving them a letter of credit on the Bank in the Colony to which they may be emigrating, and as regards the other paying their passage out and outfit.

When the vast extent of our Colonies is considered, their political and commercial importance taken into consideration, and when, moreover, they are viewed as outlets for the safe emigration of our redundant population, and thereby the extension of commerce, it may appear surprising that no effort has been made to assist in the promotion of civilisation and colonisation. Attempts have certainly been made by Joint-Stock Companies to colonise and settle different parts of our vast Colonial Empire; but as these have an ulterior object in view, they can hardly be considered as disinterested means of promoting emigration and colonisation. It is, therefore, proposed to establish a Society, similar in every respect to Missionary and other Societies as regards government and constitution, having for its object the more decided and immediate encouragement of Emigration to the British Colonies.

The proposed Society will be entirely supported by voluntary contributions; its affairs managed by a committee of gentlemen appointed

for that purpose, and supported by patrons and presidents. The Society will aim at giving inducements to young married and other persons having some capital, income, or property, to settle in the British Dominions, by advancing to them a *portion* of the funds necessary to their emigration. Thus, suppose a young married couple have sufficient capital to commence sheep-farming in the Colonies, and would be glad to go, but want the means necessary for so doing, without infringing on what they already have in hand with which to establish themselves on arrival in the Colony,—this Society by advancing to them so much of the requisite money might secure to the Colony a class of settlers peculiarly desirable, and be, at the same time, accomplishing a very great benefit to the parties. The Society proposes doing this to the extent of one-fourth of its available means, in favour of small farmers, tradesmen, schoolmasters, and mistresses and governesses,—and, it doubts not, will have plenty of scope for accomplishing real personal and public good.

But the operations of the Society will not be confined to giving *partial* assistance to such respectable persons among the middle classes as may desire to settle in Her Majesty's Colonies—it proposes also to *pay the whole expense of passage out and outfit* of labourers, shepherds, artificers, and journeymen handicraftsmen, desirous of going to the Colonies—and this to the extent of three-fourths of its means; and when it is considered, that in spite of the thousands who yearly leave this country for the different Colonies, how many more would gladly go to them also, and be sure of finding employment, the Society counts on affording to this class the means of an honest and industrious livelihood, and, in proportion to the means at its disposal, greatly benefiting the condition of those remaining at home.

This Society will in no case aim at foreign emigration; it will simply afford the means of settling in the Colonies, any and all, *dependent on the British Crown*—to those who, either from having friends already settled in them, or simply desirous of trying a new field for their talents and enterprise, may be desirous of emigrating. As it has no lands to dispose of there, and is not a speculation, or a trading company, its object can be but that of doing real good.

It will, at the same time, keep in view the wants of the Colonies as regards the class of persons most suited to them; it will only give encouragement to moral, respectable, and steady persons; and where the case of a married man with a large family is concerned, will give it a priority of attention. In order to carry this object out as effectually as possible, the Society will require in the case of married persons copy of their marriage certificates, and where such have any children, the certificates of their baptism, besides references as to their general moral character and respectability. In this way, they will be setting a reward upon respectability and sobriety, which must produce considerable good, while it will insure to the Colonies a class of persons in every way worthy their reception. It will also keep in view the emigration as much as possible of an equal proportion of the sexes.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE LIBERATED AFRICAN ESTABLISHMENT AT ST. HELENA.

BY GEORGE M'HENRY, M.D., C.M.G.,

MEMBER OF THE FACULTY OF MEDICINE OF PARIS, LATE SURGEON TO THE
LIBERATED AFRICAN ESTABLISHMENT AT ST. HELENA.

CHAPTER VIII.

Dispensation of the Quarantine Laws, and its evil consequences. Arrival of the "Corisco," with Smallpox on board: the propagation of the disease through the whole Establishment and through the Island, and its dreadful mortality. Arrival of the Mozambiques. The "Andorinha" sold and broken up, and the "Volant" substituted for an Hospital Ship. The "Mary Hartley" takes Liberated Africans to Barbicee. Sugar and Rice ordered to become the Diet of the Liberated Africans by the new Governor, Colonel Trelawney. The African Emigrant Ships "Hamilton Ross," "Helen," and "Lady Rowena." Wedlock among the Liberated Africans, and the Births that took place at St. Helena among them.

DURING the interval which elapsed between the formation of the Establishment, in the middle of December 1840, and the 23d May following, being the only period that a regular quarantine was enforced, all the slave-vessels were sent immediately on their arrival to Lemon Valley, and placed under my charge. I was simply ordered to adopt those measures which I considered to be best calculated for arresting the progress of disease, and restoring the sick to health. The regulations which I then observed were eminently successful in accomplishing the desired result. Nevertheless, the most singularly inconsistent plans were henceforth devised by the Colonial Government to abrogate the beneficial tendency of the system which had hitherto been in operation. On the arrival of slavers for the future, they were invariably detained during a period embracing from three to fourteen days before the people were removed out of them. If unfortunately the vessel came in on a Saturday, no notice was taken of the application of the prize-officer to be relieved of the charge of it until the Monday following, when the Governor would command a Medical Board to assemble, to recommend what they considered to be the proper sanitary measures to be taken on the occasion. The Board's report would not be read, perhaps, by the Colonial Secretary till the day after; so that it would be Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning before the decision of His Excellency respecting the destination of the Africans could be made known. On every occasion of a slave-vessel arriving with infectious disease was a Medical Board called; as if the arrangements they had proposed once could not be taken as a precedent, and acted upon ever afterwards, unless on the occurrence of some extraordinary circumstances in the case. Often a week or ten days would pass over before the Governor would sanction the reception of the slaves, who were all that time

obliged to remain closely stowed on board, still subjected to the sufferings of a crowded hold, and exposed to the sickness which during the passage had probably cut off a great number of them. It was a melancholy fatality also, that the detention should always have been the longest when there was infectious disease on board, and when therefore the sickness and mortality were greatest. This was a lamentable circumstance, which could have been easily avoided by the adoption and observance of fixed rules for every case and every contingency. The unsettled plan of action preferred by the Colonial Government was attended with remarkable inconsistencies, and followed in many instances by deplorable consequences. These should have sufficed, in the first cases in which they occurred, to prove the folly of their conduct; and their continuance in the obnoxious measures after the flagrant demonstration of their injurious tendency, only rendered more glaring and condemnable the abuse of authority. I will not go so far as to ascribe the error to hardened indifference for the sufferings of the poor creatures because they were negroes; I will endeavour, if possible, to attribute the fault rather to thoughtlessness, which in exalted functionaries is, however, almost as unpardonable and culpable as cruelty itself. Besides the delay to the disembarkation of the slaves, which was always detrimental, it may serve to illustrate the ridiculous nature of the measures adopted, to describe the whimsical changes which frequently occurred in their destination and location during the short period of a week. First, the slave-vessel would be ordered to remain at anchor before James' Town for two or three days; then it would be sent to Rupert's Station, and on the next day be instructed to repair to Lemon Valley; the slaves, after being landed at the last place, would perhaps on the morrow be transferred to High Knoll; and before the week would pass, the women, boys, and girls, amongst those sent to High Knoll, would be conducted back to Lemon Valley. In the case of the "Corisco," which I am going to mention, after being commanded to land the Africans at Rupert's Valley, where upwards of a hundred were actually disembarked, they were shipped on board again the next day, and the vessel was ordered to return to the port of James' Town, where she remained two weeks without any European to take charge of her, although smallpox was raging among the slaves, and killing many of them every day; and it was only at the end of that time that she was at length sent off to Lemon Valley.

Owing to the arrangements which had been observed for arresting its progress and preventing its diffusion, the smallpox, though introduced four successive times among 1127 slaves, yet occasioned a very trifling mortality. Indeed, so easily had the disease been extinguished, that it was a litigated point among all classes, whether it was variolous or not. On account of its alleged mildness, and its not spreading among the inhabitants of the island, it was believed by many that I had been mistaken in my diagnosis. It was the general impression that it was not the smallpox, but a species of itch, which had prevailed among the Africans. This opinion was held by the Military Surgeon, who however had never seen any of the patients affected with it, and

could therefore be influenced only by suppositions, not facts. He pronounced what he had never witnessed, to be either the itch, or a sort of unknown but innocent eruption; and as he was the oldest medical officer in the island, his sentiments were adopted by the multitude. He did not confine his conduct to the enunciation of his opinions, but, most arrogantly and unhappily, addressed an official letter to the Governor, advocating, from its mildness, the impossibility of the disease being smallpox. This epistle had the effect which its author expected and hoped for, and His Excellency became a convert to the doctrines espoused in it. That high functionary, placing implicit reliance on the professional talent and experience of the Military Surgeon, was induced to discontinue the strict quarantine regulations I had observed, and which had been found to be so successful in effecting a speedy extinction of the disease. Most disastrous in its results was this determination: for the very next vessel with smallpox on board, the "Corisco," in accordance with these views, was not put in quarantine, and became, in consequence of this neglect of prudent measures, the source of long-continued calamities to the Liberated Africans and the inhabitants of the island.

On the 15th August, 1841, the "Corisco" arrived with 366 slaves on board, among whom the Prize Officer reported smallpox was prevailing or had prevailed to a trifling extent. A Medical Board was called, consisting of the Military Surgeon, the Colonial Surgeon, and the Health Officer, who went in a boat alongside the infected ship, and examined one or two patients, who were brought forward for that purpose to the gangway; and who, it appears, were then only affected with a few scabs of an indefinable kind; and therefore, if they had been attacked with smallpox, it merely proved that they were in the convalescent stage. These scabs were the subject of great disputation among the learned doctors, who were all so intimately acquainted with the diversified qualities of dried-up humours, distinguished by the vulgar epithet just mentioned, that one of them undertook to prove, from their specific characters, that the disease had been the *scabies purulenta*—translated into common language, the "Scotch fiddle;" while the other two were inclined to adopt my suggestions, and believe it was actually smallpox with which they had been attacked. These, however, could not long resist the arguments of the other, who was, as might be imagined, the Military Surgeon—especially when they were backed by the logic of the Town Major, and supported by the known wishes of the collective authorities. I could never exactly learn what was the report of this intelligent Board; my inquiries to ascertain the particulars were always met with shuffling and repulse: it was a common rumour, however, that gained credence among the public, that the first declaration of the Board was unsatisfactory to the Government, and therefore returned to its members, whereupon they went to work and produced another rather more agreeable, which was accepted and acted upon. In conformity, then, with the second resolutions of the Board,—or rather, I suspect, with the wishes of the party who possessed the most influence with the Governor,—Mr. Sturdee, the officer in command of

the "Corisco," and the crew, were allowed to land immediately at James' Town, and the vessel was ordered to remove to Rupert's Station and land the slaves there. More than one hundred of the negroes were taken on shore that same day; and while these things were transacting, many persons belonging to the island were permitted to go on board the vessel. But, on the following morning, so many of the Africans who had been landed the day before were found labouring under high constitutional symptoms, that alarm was created, which was soon confirmed by the appearance of the *innocent eruption*, the cause of the previous sickness and fever. They were commanded to be put on board again, and the "Corisco" was ordered to return to the port of James' Town, where she lay two weeks, surrounded by many other ships in the harbour, and of course might have infected some of them. For fourteen days were these miserable beings pent up in the crowded hold of a slaver, amidst disease and filth of all kinds, without clothes to protect them from the weather or to conceal their nakedness from the gaze of the passengers on board the different vessels at anchor around, and breathing an atmosphere continually increasing in the virulence of its pestiferous qualities. No person was appointed to visit them, to ascertain the progress of the disease, or the number of its daily victims; and no medical officer was commissioned to attend the sick, and endeavour to arrest the course of the consuming pestilence: but the vessel was allowed to remain in the centre of the shipping, a floating lazaretto abandoned to the destruction of a ruthless malady—an eyesore, a plague-spot, the opprobrium and disgrace of the Colonial Government, a loathsome yet convincing proof of either its incapacity or inhumanity. How long the "Corisco" might have lain in this condition it would be difficult to say, as it was intimated to me that the authorities did not intend to affix upon me the trouble of attending it, but resolved to confer the charge upon the Health Officer, who was supposed to officiate in the capacity of Surgeon to the Establishment at Rupert's Station. It was, however, hinted to me by the Collector of Customs, if I would address the Governor on the subject of the disposal of the slaves, and propose to take charge of them as before, that my offer would be properly appreciated by His Excellency, and accepted with acknowledgment. The Governor very handsomely acquiesced in my proposal, and, in conformity with this resolution, the vessel was at last sent down to Lemon Valley, and placed under my orders. In reference to the offer of my services on this occasion, the Governor was pleased to testify his approbation of my zeal and activity in behalf of the unfortunate Africans. But it was too late to prevent the propagation of the disease; for it raged through the whole of the slaves on board the "Corisco," owing to their having been kept together so long a time; and by the landing of a portion of them at Rupert's Station on the day of their arrival as related, it spread through the whole of the negroes there, who then amounted to upwards of a thousand; and by these it was conveyed to Lemon Valley, where there were about six hundred more. Through the whole inmates of the Liberated African Establishment, among the overseers as well as the negroes, the ravages

of smallpox, owing to these circumstances, extended for a period of above six months; and the deaths occasioned by it at the two Stations amounted to upwards of 150, 105 of whom belonged to Rupert's, sent from thence daily to the hospital ship at Lemon Valley. A number of deaths took place among the natives of the island, many of whom, principally of the lower classes, were attacked with the disease; and had not the vaccine virus been procured about two months previously from the Cape of Good Hope, and most of the people, especially the respectable portion of the community, been vaccinated, there is every reason to suppose the disease would have been more extensive, and the mortality more destructive.

The first case that occurred among the native inhabitants took place about two weeks after it began to prevail at Rupert's Station. A mulatto cooper, of the name of Sloe, having been employed several days repairing the casks which were used at Rupert's for holding water for the use of the negroes, fell ill, and on his return to James' Town, where he lived, the eruption broke out upon him. From him it spread to his nephew, and two women residing in the same house. These infected their near neighbours, and especially some friends that they had, living at Ladder Hill; and it soon gained among the families of the Honourable East India Company's Invalids, located in the vicinity. The Military Surgeon, who had been so strenuous an advocate for the non-varioloid character of the disease, held at that time the commission of Medical Officer to the Invalids, and in that capacity attended upon them and their families. It is a most singular circumstance in the present invasion and progress of the malady, that it assumed the greatest malignity, and was most fatal, exactly amongst his own patients. Two of them were left perfectly blind by the effects of the *innocent eruption*, and several died; nevertheless, in spite of these flagrant proofs of the real character of the disease, I am sorry to say, he had not the candour to acknowledge his error. He still persisted in affirming that the complaint which had blinded and killed his patients was not smallpox, but *the itch*! That a disease generally so amenable to the simple treatment recommended by the old women everywhere, assumed under the hands of an educated professional gentleman so great a virulence as to occasion death, was the highest condemnation and reproach to his own skill and experience, and constituted a worse excuse for his conduct than an honourable and sincere confession of his mistake. With the widely-received impression respecting the abilities of the Medical Officers in the Army, I cannot believe that any should be found among them so devoid of the little knowledge required to treat the itch successfully, even in the most inveterate cases, as to allow their patients to die of it. It is impossible; if otherwise, the fittest punishment for his ignorance would be, I should consider, an instant dismissal from the service.

With respect to such among the poor in James' Town as became affected with the smallpox, they were sent to me, and being lodged on board the hospital ship, and rendered as comfortable as possible, were attended by me through the course of their illness. Two among them

became victims to the malady,—a dissipated fisherman, who had previously ruined his constitution by Cape wine, and a lad of about twelve years of age, an orphan, whose frame had likewise been impaired, by want, and who for the last three months, before he was seized with the disease, had been lingering out a wretched existence, a dependent on the precarious bounty of the Iascars of the Marine Department. For my attendance upon all these I was promised remuneration; the very letter which requested me to take charge of them contained a proposition for the payment of my services. The Churchwardens, alarmed at the increasing extension of the malady, made earnest entreaties with the Government for the removal of the infected among the parish paupers, and indeed respectable mechanics, from town, and their location at Lemon Valley under my superintendence—and while the prospects of danger were menacing, were very liberal in their professions of gratitude for my services, and no doubt quite as sincere in their intentions to reward me for my zeal and assistance. When, however, I had performed my duty, and saved the health and happiness of their families, with the disappearance of personal peril their generous resolutions had fled—and even their grateful acknowledgments diminished, if they did not entirely cease. To my application on the subject to the Collector of Customs,—who, in the name and at the desire of the parochial authorities, had promised me payment for the additional trouble imposed upon me by my attendance on the poor inhabitants of St. Helena,—I received the following answer:—"I am at a loss to inform you from whom you are to receive remuneration, if the parish do not pay for those individuals who were sent to Lemon Valley, at the requisition of the then Churchwardens, to be committed to your professional care, and by which doubtless the alarming malady of smallpox was prevented from spreading throughout the island." The Churchwardens, for their part, refused to advance a penny, alleging it was by the fault of the Colonial Government that the disease had been introduced and propagated, and that therefore the authorities, guilty of the erroneous measures that led to the infliction of the dire calamity, were in honour bound to repair what their folly had created. Of course, after this refusal I had to content myself with the only reward left me, the approbation of my conscience for the performance of a good action; and my best consolation in the case, was my contempt for the mean and despicable conduct of the Churchwardens, who, because they had not contracted a written engagement, attempted to prove that a verbal compact was invalid and useless.

Among the overseers, John Sylvester and John Harris took the disease, and the former was very dangerously affected. So severe had the smallpox been with him, that his face was left covered with pits. He, together with the cooper Sloc, and many other natives of the island, bore on their persons and countenances ever afterwards the most indelible and convincing proofs of the nature of the disease.

On the 6th October, the "*Conceicao de Maria*" arrived, having been captured by the "*Fantome*" only three days after the latter had sailed from St. Helena on her voyage to the Cape of Good Hope. The prize

had taken in her slaves on the Mozambique coast, and having escaped the vigilance of the cruisers there, the crew had no doubt become very sanguine in their expectations of a prosperous voyage.

The Mozambique negroes must have suffered a great deal during so long a detention on board the slaver as was compatible with the passage from the eastern coast of Africa, exposed as they were to the cold weather and storms that began to prevail round the Cape of Good Hope at that season of the year. Nevertheless, they arrived in a pretty hearty condition, to judge by their outward appearance, and in a much cleaner state than was usual among new-comers. They had not been landed a week, however, before sickness began to rage amongst them to an alarming extent; none of the newly-arrived Africans ever experienced so severe a seasoning; and unfortunately, as the smallpox, that had been brought by the "Corisco," was then spreading its destructive influence among the people at both stations, the Mozambiques had this scourge to contend with along with the usual complaints that attacked and carried off the negroes. It was really distressing to see stout, clean-limbed fellows converted by sickness in the course of a few days to miserable skeletons. The amount of one-third of deaths, which was customary to take place in the space of three months among the newly-arrived from the effects of seasoning and their own idiopathic diseases, was in the case of the unhappy Mozambiques filled up in a much shorter period of time.

Among the numbers supposed to be attacked with smallpox, received from Rupert's Station almost daily, were many who had nothing but simple papular and herpetic eruptions; but as they were mixed with the varioloid cases in the boat that conveyed them to the hospital ship, and were put on board without an examination being made by competent persons; and as, after being thus exposed to infection, I dared not land them for fear of propagating the disease further on shore, where it now began to diminish in violence; the smallpox actually broke out among them often after the slight complaints, with which they were affected when sent, were cured. I am informed that many of these were never seen by Dr. Solomon, the reputed Surgeon of Rupert's Station, but were selected as smallpox cases by the clerk in charge of the stores, or any overseer present. "A new broom sweeps clean;" so during the first month or two of the prevalence of the disease at the station, Dr. Solomon was perhaps assiduous in his attendance, and careful in his examination of these cases; but thinking the smallpox was never going to be extinguished, became remiss in the performance of his duty, which he delegated to others incompetent and incapable: for the knowledge the worthy officials possessed of nosology, could not, of course, have been great!

During the time the smallpox was thus raging to so fearful a degree, no quarantine was enforced. The only instruction I received on the subject of preventing the propagation of the disease, was to enjoin on the overseers and matrons not to leave the Stations; yet the engineer's workmen were authorised by the Government to pass through Rupert's Valley daily, amongst hundreds of Africans, continually contracting the

sickness, on their way to Banks' Battery, situated in the next ravine in the neighbourhood.

From the period of the expiration of the quarantine in May 1841 to the end of the year, the number of the sick must often have considerably surpassed two hundred: I think I should not exaggerate if I were to estimate them at upwards of three hundred occasionally, as many were not admitted into the hospital on account of want of room, and others were neglected, and therefore not taken into the calculation, from the habit they practised of concealing their diseases.

I forgot to mention in its proper place, that the "Andorinha," which had been used as the hospital ship, was sold and broken up about a month before the arrival of the "Corisco;" so that when she came in, with a large complement of smallpox cases, another vessel had to be procured for the purpose of an hospital. The authorities selected the hulk of an American whaler, the "Volant," which was hence substituted for the "Andorinha." About £100 was given for the "Volant," yet the proprietor was not ashamed to demand £10 per month for the use of it: and the Colonial Government, though economy could be talked of and practised when three farthings a day were to be taken from the salary of an overseer or matron, possessed it so little on the present occasion, and on many others, as I shall show, that they acquiesced in the payment of the enormous rent. Additional expense was incurred for the fitting up of a flimsy framework of thin deal props, on which were fixed old sails for the purpose of serving as an awning; which would certainly have been useful had it been properly and substantially constructed, but which, owing to its being so slightly put up, was blown down on the occurrence of the first strong wind. All the requisites of a regular hospital were either forgotten or considered as unnecessary: no beds, bedding, pillows, no utensils of necessity or articles of comfort, were provided; the sick had merely one blanket each allowed them, rolled up in which they had to lie and sleep on the bare boards. And what was the effect on them, especially the smallpox patients, whose bodies from head to foot were covered with sores? Why, the irritation of the blanket against the skin, and its adhesion to the raw flesh, and the pressure of the hard floor, would convert a pustule into an ulcer, and an ulcer into a sloughing gangrene; and so extensive has the loss of substance been, in many cases, from the effects of suppuration and ulceration, that bones have been exposed to view—a horrible sight! and death often ensued in consequence.

From the successive arrival of so many slave-vessels, the number of Liberated Africans maintained on the Establishment by the close of the year 1841 amounted to about 2,000. Had it not been for the great mortality occasioned by sickness, and the apprenticeship of about 300 to the inhabitants of the island, their number would have embraced upwards of 700 more. The expenses incurred in the maintenance of so large a number, and for so long a period, for they had now remained on the Establishment a whole year, were, as might be imagined, enormous. The extravagant sum of £48,000, I am informed, was spent for this purpose; which, even considering the excessively high

prices demanded by the avaricious merchants who supplied the Establishment, for every article they furnished, was still an exorbitant amount. The trifle of 7s. 6d. a piece for cotton shirts, Osnaburgh trowsers, and guernseys, was paid them; while the same articles were obtained in the latter period of the existence of the Establishment for the reduced rates of 1s. and 1s. 3d. Everything was as high in proportion: meat was bought at 1s. per lb., biscuit at £1 17s. 6d. per 100 lbs., rice 14s. 9d. per 100 lbs., salted beef at £1 17s. 6d. per 100 lbs., and vegetables at 2d. per lb. Some blame may be attached for this excessive expenditure to the Colonial Office at home, who were duly informed of the arrival of the slaves in such large numbers, and requested to give directions respecting their disposal. By the neglect of the authorities in England to express their commands on the subject, the Colonial Government were afraid to venture upon any measure, for fear of giving offence. If on their own responsibility they had chartered a ship, and sent the Africans away to the West Indies, they might have incurred the displeasure of the Government at home; so that nothing was done; the people were allowed to accumulate, until they became a nuisance to the island, and a drain upon the public treasury. Had proper measures been taken from the beginning, and economy exercised, not merely vaunted, I think I may hazard the assertion, that £40,000 would have been saved out of that year's expenditure. As it was, the Governor began to be alarmed at the increasing magnitude of the numbers maintained by the public bounty, and would have eagerly embraced an opportunity of being relieved of their support. Not only on account of saving the useless and condemnable outlay, but of affording the negroes the means to elevate themselves from the humiliating condition of paupers, which they had hitherto been, was it a laudable object on the part of His Excellency to promote the removal of such as were willing to emigrate; since the small extent of St. Helena, and the poverty of its resources, could not give employment for them all, but only a small fraction. The West Indies were Colonies capable of supplying them with plenty of labour; there the Africans would be able to work for their livelihood; and in contracting habits of industry, and dependence on their own resources, they would extricate themselves from the degradation of poverty and subjection. Such an opportunity of ameliorating their social condition now presented itself, and was embraced with satisfaction and delight by the Liberated Africans.

In the month of December 1841, the barque "Mary Hartley," of about 500 tons, arrived at St. Helena from Calcutta; and as she was bound, with a cargo principally of rice, to British Guiana, the captain, who was an enterprising man, thought it would not be a bad speculation to take as many Africans as he could find room for. Captain Webb accordingly applied to the Governor for permission to convey Liberated Africans to Berbice; which being accorded, 140 of them, all stout and healthy, were shipped. Far many more might have been procured, but there were not sufficient accommodations on board for a larger number. Captain Webb received nothing from the Colonial

Government of St. Helena, nor had he contracted an engagement with any party in Berbice, whither he was bound, for the payment of the passage of the emigrants, but granted it them in the expectation that his expenses would be refunded by the planters and merchants of the latter Colony, who were so much in want of labour. The "Mary Hartley" proceeded on her voyage with the good wishes of all connected with the Establishment, to whom it was highly gratifying afterwards to learn that the worthy Captain's calculations had not been disappointed, as the speculation had turned out to be eminently successful and profitable. So prosperous, indeed, had it proved, that the Captain was induced to return for another cargo of the same merchandise, the particulars of which voyage will be related in its proper place. In the mean while, I would desire to intimate that, of all the commanders of African emigrant ships who came to St. Helena on similar expeditions, Captain Webb was the most esteemed and respected for his kind and affable manners, and his exemption from mean and vulgar arrogance; a fault but too common among that ignorant but self-sufficient class of men. He may have been naturally polite and amiable; but education had, no doubt, contributed to improve those estimable qualities—and while it exalted the innate faculties of his mind, had also ameliorated the excellent principles of his heart. Captain Webb was a literary character, and dedicated his leisure hours on board ship to a cultivation of the muse; and an interesting poem, in the Spenserian stanza, celebrating the hardships, dangers, and glory of a sea-life, attested the refinement of his taste, the purity of his imagination, and the goodness of his understanding.

Before the departure of these African emigrant ships, it was usual for the Collector of Customs to summon a Board, consisting of the first Clerk of the Custom-house, the Surgeon of Rupert's Station (while he was attached to it), and myself, for the purpose of proceeding on board the vessels, and ascertaining the number, ages, and sexes of the emigrants, and examining if the accommodations provided for them were proper and ample, the provisions and water sufficient and wholesome, the quantity of medicines and medical comforts adequate for the voyage, if the clothing allowed them was furnished, and, finally, if they embarked with their free will and consent. With the exception of the first particulars, the proceedings of the Board were, of course, a farce. How could they possibly examine every barrel of biscuit, every bag of rice and cask of water, and establish the fact of their weight, contents, and good quality? As to the concurrence of the emigrants in their removal, it was well known that the greater part were in the most of instances compelled to embark; and that, for this purpose, bribes, threats, and even blows, were liberally employed; yet had they so little attained to the independency of character inherent to *free men* by their residence in St. Helena, that most of them always declared they emigrated voluntarily, when asked the question previous to the sailing of the vessel. They were afraid, I imagine, to express themselves otherwise. The plan that was adopted to attest the quality of the provisions was, to request samples to be brought for the inspection of

the Board. The captain issued his commands to the steward, who presently appeared with a number of plates, one containing rice, another biscuit, another meat, another sugar, and so on. Of course, all these articles were good; but they might have been taken from the ship's private stores, for all that the Board could pronounce to the contrary; and I suspect, in many cases, such a deception actually took place; for afterwards, in 1844, on board the schooner "Margaret," which I attended in the capacity of Surgeon to the African Emigrants, during the voyage to Port of Spain, in Trinidad, we found a beef-barrel full of brine instead of meat: no sugar was put on board at all for the use of the negroes; and there was such a scarcity of water, that their allowance was reduced for a long time to the one-half, and they were obliged to boil their rice with the rain that fell upon the deck—the scuppers being closed, a large quantity of water was obtained from the falling showers, which, as it was mixed with the dung of fowls, the salt of the sprays, and many other impurities, rendered the rice detestable, and it would most probably have been exceedingly unwholesome had it been continued to be used much longer. But, happily, favourable winds arose after a week's prevalence of calms; and, as we had no further apprehensions of a long passage, and had saved a quantity from the issuing of the limited supply, we were no longer obliged to have recourse to the impure and deleterious water procured by the means specified. The barque "Rose," which left St. Helena with 206 Africans for the same destination, was more unfortunate than ourselves, for not a drop of water remained on board when they reached the Bocas, at the entrance of the port. What would their sufferings have been had the voyage been prolonged for a few days longer? a not unlikely circumstance, when the great prevalence of calms at the equator is taken into account. It is my duty to relate all these facts, though I myself may be subjected to censure as a member of the Board, whose business it was to prevent the occurrence of the impositions that were practised, perhaps involuntarily, in regard to the supplies put on board the emigrant ships. My excuse is, that I never supposed they could have been practised; even now, I am more disposed to impute what happened to negligence than design; and if the latter motive be impeached, the extenuation of my conduct will be found in the impracticability of performing the duties exacted. To whomsoever the fault may be imputed, I will, at least, have the honesty to confess and divulge the error, in order that measures may be taken for the future to prevent their recurrence. This subject likewise leads me into the consideration of the short period allotted by the Government for the passage between St. Helena and Trinidad. Five weeks is the time appointed, and is decidedly too short, although the voyage may occasionally be performed in a month, in a fast-sailing vessel. Fair winds certainly prevail in general, in that part of the ocean: contrary ones, nevertheless, are not there unknown; and calms are not unfrequent, and are often of long duration, extending sometimes for two or three weeks. Provisions and water ought, therefore, to be put on board for at least six weeks, especially if we take as a criterion the measure of distance and time that regulates other voyages. The

number of weeks deemed necessary for a passage between England and North America, excepting the west coast thereof, is ten, the same period that is recognised as a rule for the supply of provisions for a voyage to the West Indies. For any part of the continent of Central or South America on the Atlantic side, excepting British Guiana, twelve weeks' supply is required. At this calculation, surely six weeks would not be too long for the distance between St. Helena and Trinidad.

The term now approached when we were to lose our excellent Governor, Major-General Middlemore—a man endeared to all the inhabitants of St. Helena, over whom he ruled with paternal equity for upwards of six years. With the single exception of too much confidence in the professional opinion of the Military Surgeon—which became the source of extensive sickness and mortality among the Liberated Africans, but for which there was a natural excuse, since the Military Surgeon was the medical attendant to his family—all his other conduct towards the Establishment and its inmates was invariably marked with the characteristic traits of the purest benevolence. He was amiable in his manners, dignified in his deportment, and kind and liberal in his charities, which were without ostentation. He was a complete specimen of a man of candour and honour—no mountebank, no hypocrite, and no tyrant. One of the most distinguished officers in Wellington's victorious army in the Peninsula, he had acquired great renown by his bravery on the field of battle. By his moderation and lenity in the high civil station in which he was known to us, he commanded the esteem of all who had the good fortune of holding official situations under his government. He is still, I understand, living, and is now holding in the West Indies an important military post, which his habits, his experience, and abilities will enable him to fill with honour to himself and advantage to the country. Colonel Trelawney, who had been for several years the commanding officer of artillery at St. Helena, and who had lately left the island for England, was appointed his successor. The prepossessions of the people were in his favour; and the arrival of the new Governor was hailed with great joy, for they had formed favourable expectations of his public conduct from the familiarity of his manners during his former residence. His advent was celebrated with illuminations, and tumultuous demonstrations of their good feelings by the multitude, whose behaviour on the occasion, had the late ruler been severe, would have reminded me exactly of that of the frogs in the fable, praying for another king from Jupiter. One merchant or shopkeeper was foolish enough, in the extravagance of his felicity, to try and get up a public meeting, and pass a vote of censure on the upright and high-minded Middlemore, imagining that he would the better please the new functionary by this officious and arrogant display of his spleen and adulation. But the people soon found out to their cost, and their bitter curse, that Middlemore was to Trelawney as is "Hyperion to a Satyr."

It was in the beginning of March 1842, that the Collector of Customs, the Surgeon of Rupert's Station, and myself were summoned, by the orders of the new Governor, to meet him at the Castle in James' Town.

On being ushered into the Council-room, His Excellency very kindly furnished us with cigars, and bade us sit down and smoke. Being a lover of the Indian weed, this gave me a very favourable opinion of His Excellency's familiar manners, but rather an awkward impression respecting his dignity. We sat, and smoked, and listened, while the Governor, who was an orator if Anthony was not, entertained us with a long discourse on the natural diet of the negroes, and of the various nations of the earth; on the superior wholesomeness and nourishment of farinaceous to animal food, as attested by the *muscular structure* and *Herculean strength* of the Hindoos, Lascars, and other people of the East, who principally live on rice; on the pernicious and fatal effects of consuming flesh, inducing, as the bad habit was accused of doing, the severe gastro-enteric complaints called diarrhœa, dysentery, and cholera morbus, the specific cure and prevention of which consisted in the plentiful administration of rice; the good effects of giving negro boys apple and peach tarts, and plum pudding, which His Excellency daily treated them to, because he was convinced they were more salutary articles of food than beef and mutton; and, finally, on the resolution he had adopted, to abolish the use of fresh meat in the Establishment, because it was *killing the negroes!* and substituting instead, a large quantity of rice with a little sugar; which alteration of diet was not only to be the means of restoring all the dysenteric patients to health, but of precluding the possibility of the disease appearing again! When such extravagant expectations were formed from the operation of so simple and powerless a substance, aiding, perhaps, the use of other means in slight cases of bowel complaints, but which it was ridiculous to consider a remedy in African *kalunza vumodi*, which invariably assumes the worst forms of dysentery—itself a disease more formidable in tropical climates than in Europe, and still more malignant in the present instances, from being conjoined with extreme emaciation and exhaustion, complicated with scurvy and extensive sloughing ulcers, and engendered by noxious food, filthy water, a deleterious atmosphere, and perhaps by starvation, cruel flogging, and despair,—it is wonderful that faith was not also placed in its efficacy to resuscitate those who had died of dysentery. At the termination of the harangue His Excellency turned round to the Surgeon of Rupert's Station, and, adverting to the necessity of reducing the expenses of the Establishment, informed him of his intention to discharge him from his situation, there being, in his opinion, no further occasion for the services of two medical officers in the Establishment; however, as His Excellency was now desirous of ascertaining the operation and virtue of his newly-invented nostrum, in the relief of the disorders of the negroes, and their restoration to health, as well as the improvement in the condition of such as were strong, he would give him grace for three months longer, especially as he would be able to justify this extension of his services to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the plea of his being employed in watching over the effects of His Excellency's wonderful discovery! The whole of this farce actually occurred, and will afford an idea of the applicability of the nickname that was henceforth used to designate the

Liberated African Establishment "humbug." And so, Mr. Solomon, who held another appointment, that of Health Officer, was to be retained three months longer in his situation of Surgeon at Rupert's Station, in order to see sugar and rice served out to the Africans, and to observe whether the sick improved more, the weak recruited faster, and the healthy grew fatter, under the use of so emollient a diet than they did when devouring flesh!

In the mean time, the "Minerva" with 499 slaves, and the "Dous Amigos" with 147 on board, arrived, and landed their human cargoes at Rupert's Station. I have little acquaintance with the circumstances attending their arrival, or the location of their passengers; but the trouble of attending the sick among them of course devolved upon me, Dr. Solomon taking very good care to send me all who were likely to die, in order to swell the amount of deaths at Lemon Valley, inferring from thence the very shrewd, but scarcely fair conclusion, that it was less healthy than Rupert's Station. The wonder is that any died at Rupert's at all, seeing that the Surgeon there, in order to save himself from trouble, and attach to himself unmerited credit for the health of the locality, was only in this circumstance of sending the sick away to Lemon Valley not wanting in diligence.

The Cape of Good Hope was the next Colony to which the Liberated Africans were sent. A Society was formed there, and a capital subscribed, for the purpose of promoting the introduction of these people, and defraying the expenses of their removal from St. Helena; and two vessels, the "Hamilton Ross" and the "Helen," were chartered to carry out the views of the Society. On the arrival of these vessels, much trouble was experienced from the opposition made by the medical gentlemen in charge of the emigrants to the proceedings of the officers connected with the Establishment: nevertheless, as many Liberated Africans were procured as they could take, and more than they were entitled to receive from the tonnage of the vessels.

The succeeding emigrant ship was the "Lady Rowena," on board of which Mr. Augustus Kennedy, who had held the situation of clerk, first at Lemon Valley, and afterwards at Rupert's Station, took his passage in the capacity of surgeon. He was accompanied by William Huntley, rendered disconsolate by the loss of his wife, and the immaculate Molly Plato, who was in the same unfortunate predicament, having been lately bereaved of her dear invalid husband, Patrick Welsh. By the united influence of these three, the "Lady Rowena" obtained a full compliment of emigrants. The destination of the vessel was Demerara; and a finer, healthier set of negroes were never landed on the shores of Guiana, even in the palmy days of the Slave-trade, when permitted and encouraged by the British Government.

When a negro has felt the influence of the tender passion—the source of so much happiness or misery among mankind—he communicates the sentiments with which he is inspired to the mother, aunt, or eldest sister, father, brother, or protector of his *innamorata*, and makes his proposals through the medium of a present of beads, and pieces of cotton stuff of small value, for his future spouse, and a smaller donation, con-

sisting of a handkerchief or cheap shawl, for the protector or matron ; and the price of the bride being settled upon between the parties, the suitor invites the friends of both sides to an evening feast, where, besides partaking of other luxuries, they must absolutely be provided with a bottle or two of Cape wine: The payment of the stipulated sum, which is given, not to the lady herself, but her protector, whether male or female, and the acceptance of the presents, consisting of the baubles described by the bride, constitute the marriage valid without the interference of civil or ecclesiastical authority, and without the celebration of religious rites. Such was the simple ceremony observed by the Liberated Africans on an occasion considered so important among civilised communities. Marriage, however, is esteemed by them more in the light of a temporary contract than a permanent engagement ; and the idea of viewing a mere corporeal bargain as a spiritual sacrament is too refined, and perhaps preposterous, for their rude intellects. Constituted in the manner described, the state of wedlock can be dissolved by the woman, whenever she thinks proper to restore before witnesses the value of the donations she has received, together with the amount of her purchase-money—an event that often happens : for after a month or two, conceiving herself to be ill treated or neglected for another passion which her husband has contracted in the mean time, she contrives to procure the wherewithal to satisfy his claims, and the connexion ceases. This is much facilitated, in many instances, by the assistance of some lover to whose propositions the bride has been listening, who advances the money required, and for his generosity usually receives the hand, if not the heart, of the inconstant fair. With respect to the rights exercised by the men, they on their parts can untie the nuptial knot by disposing of their wives as they think proper ; they can sell them if worth buying, and give them away if only worth accepting ; if the poor female be in neither condition, I am sure I do not know what becomes of her—no doubt, she is beaten and worried to an untimely and premature death.

The custom of polygamy, so prevalent throughout Africa, was observed by the liberated slaves at St. Helena. The men procured as many wives as their means of purchasing them would admit of : and as they were very cheap articles, he was an exceedingly lazy fellow who would not work and amass as much as would obtain him half-a-dozen. He was never any loser by the bargain ; for when tired or disgusted with his mistresses, he always found others ready to refund him the price he paid for them, and take them off his hands. What is strange, the system did not seem to be disliked by the women, who, as they are fickle and fond of change, had thus the means afforded them of indulging their inclinations. They are in great grief and despair when they wish to separate and cannot obtain the means of repaying their purchase-money. It is rare, however, that they do not in the course of a few days find some kind-hearted friend in their distress to liquidate the claims ; and in return the grateful lady consents to relinquish again her personal freedom, and give up all thoughts of single blessedness !

It were to be wished I could here notice any efforts made by the

Colonial Government to do away with these barbarous manners, and in lieu of them to establish the forms and usages of civilised society. For a man to buy his wives, and to possess as many as he has the means of purchasing, may be permitted without shame and dishonour among the savages of Africa, but in a Christian land is apt to shock the feelings, and excite indignation and disgust. To allow, then, the continuance of the degrading custom after the denization of the Liberated Africans at St. Helena, shows a remissness about their moral improvement that is nowise creditable to the local authorities. Instead of enacting regulations calculated to eradicate these abominable practices, and to supplant them by the introduction of the civil laws relating to marriage—instead of considering that state as one of peculiarly solemn import, consecrated and blessed by religion, and instituted to accomplish the destinies of mankind by the Great Author of man, the authorities, unconsciously perhaps, encouraged the dissipation and vice that already prevailed, by ordering, from time to time, women and girls to be sent from Lemon Valley Station to that of High Knoll, for the accommodation of the men. When the latter station was first formed, none but men and boys, stout and able to break stones for the roads, were there located; but soon women and girls, in large gangs, were sent to keep the men company; and I have in my possession several official orders, authorising the men at High Knoll to come to Lemon Valley, and take their wives or mistresses away to live with them at the former place. Certainly it is not good for man to be alone: Adam was discontented and miserable without Eve, even in the Garden of Eden. No objections, therefore, are raised by me at the permission accorded to a man to live with his wife; but in the cases in question, it ought first to have been inquired into, how many wives had the person already? and in the event of possessing none (a rare occurrence, I imagine), before permitting the couple to live together in barbarous contempt of fidelity, or any other matrimonial virtue, it would have been more conducive to the happiness of both parties, to have taught them their duties; and, having convinced them of the advantage of conforming to the new principles of conduct inculcated, to have them united together in the holy bonds of matrimony, as regulated by civil law, and consecrated by divine religion. Sneers may be raised at my proposition of instituting marriage among negroes; but I will inform those who may be disposed to ridicule the idea, that in the Colony of Sierra Leone the marriage rites are always observed and enforced among the Liberated Africans. Moreover, I will acquaint them that the African is an imitative creature; and as he is conscious of the superiority of the white race, he is very zealous to adopt their customs and manners; thinking, that by so doing, he has cast off the negro, and assumed the character and consequence of the European. It would, therefore, be an easy matter to introduce marriage, with its civil observances and moral obligations, among them; and the religious ceremonies connected with it would, as they captivate the senses, be the means of facilitating its introduction and adoption.

Celibacy is a word not contained in the vocabulary of the Africans; and I should much presume, as I have already hinted, that they are

almost as ignorant of the meaning of fidelity, to judge from their continual infringement of its social and moral injunctions.

In connexion with marriage, it may be proper to say a few words respecting the births that took place among the Liberated Africans at St. Helena. These were very few in proportion to the number of adult couples. This unproductiveness on their part was probably owing to the extraordinary sickly state in which the greater portion arrived, and continued to be for a long period after their arrival. I have already described the weak and emaciated condition in which they are generally first presented to view. Often, instead of improvement, deterioration in their appearance subsequently ensued, in consequence of the change of climate, diet, and habits, and the enervating and deleterious influences of seasoning. During the period of their sufferings, then, embracing the variety of cruel incidents that usually take place from the time of their capture to their acclimatization at St. Helena, the women were seldom found in a state of pregnancy. Whenever one arrived in this condition, it was generally in an advanced stage, and the poor victim of lust had almost always to encounter, in addition to her common lot of misfortunes, the affliction of premature labour, and the calamity of a still-born child; or if, by the wonderful hardihood of her frame, the miserable infant was born alive, it was stunted in its growth and deprived of strength, and seldom survived beyond a few days. After the term of seasoning had passed, and the negroes had improved in health and strength, they began again to recover the faculty of procreating. Hence the women who conceived after six months' residence on the island, usually bore stout, vigorous children, who lived, and thrived well. On the whole, it must be confessed that there was a much greater proportion of abortions among them than what obtains elsewhere; and I strongly suspect that the practice of inducing abortion was common among the women, who seemed to be acquainted with the means of accomplishing it without exposing themselves to much danger, if we are to judge from the numbers who were pregnant, and who got rid of their burdens without suffering ill consequences.

Of the negro children born at St. Helena, only eighteen came into the world alive, of whom the five first died almost immediately; but the remaining thirteen having been born at the full time, and being strong and vigorous at their birth, lived, and continued hearty, in spite of the rough Spartan treatment to which they were subjected. Of abortions I imagine there must have been about thirty, and of premature labours about ten, in all of which cases the children were generally born dead. In no instance did the mother die or suffer much from confinement; and though the abortions were numerous, and were doubtless brought on by rough means, yet were they never accompanied by any dangerous circumstances.

Many women were fond of their children; but there were some who were negligent and indifferent about them to a degree highly culpable. None appeared to pay the kind attentions and offer the endearing caresses to their offspring which are so affecting and creditable to

European mothers. Rudely treated, roughly handled, and coarsely fed, it is no wonder the infants are continually squalling, and that, from the combined influence of crying, and over-distension of the bowels by the ingestion of too much food, the greater part of them should be affected with umbilical hernia; and as they take no means to relieve or cure the complaint, it remains with them, often to a dreadful extent, when they have advanced in age: for among the adults of the Liberated Africans at St. Helena, I should say, at least the half were affected with the incommodious and distressing malady.

To wash a child, the mother strips it naked, squirts cold water out of her mouth over all its body, sometimes ducking it in the stream or tub until the infant is nearly suffocated, when she smartly blows with all her force into its eyes, nose, ears, and mouth, to clear those apertures or passages of the water, and slaps it on the back to revive it: the process of drying is effected by holding it up by the heels and shaking it in order to let the drops drip, and then tossing it repeatedly up in the air, and catching it as it falls, to divest it of the remaining moisture. The plan of feeding adopted is for the mother to fill the child's mouth as full of food as possible, and holding her hands over its mouth to prevent it from spitting any out, to force it to swallow the enormous loads in the same manner as farmers' boys cram turkeys.

The system observed by the women to carry their infants, though very commodious and easy to themselves, yet must necessarily cramp the limbs of the child. To a stranger it attracts notice from its singularity and apparent awkwardness. The child being placed in a riding position on the back, a blanket, sheet, or piece of stout calico encircles both it and its carrier, being fixed or tied securely on the front of the latter, leaving exposed only the infant's head and arms. Sometimes the child is fixed in a somewhat similar position, and in the same manner, on one or the other hip of the woman. Thus accoutred, and thus charged, the African mother can rove about and perform her work almost as easily as if unencumbered with a burden; which, however, feels certainly light and easy in comparison to the English mode of nursing.

(To be continued.)

AGRICULTURAL AND COMMERCIAL STATISTICS OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

THE last arrivals from Sydney have put us in possession of the valuable series of statistical tables relating to this Colony prepared in the Colonial Secretary's Office, and recently laid before the Legislative Council of New South Wales; and we lose no time in republishing some of them for more general information, conveying as they do a better idea of the condition, progress, and resources of the Colony than any series of papers or correspondence which could be furnished from any other channel would convey.

In a new Colony, the population returns are always watched with anxiety, and we are glad to find that notwithstanding the number of persons who were induced, principally by false representations, to leave the Colony in the early part of 1844, the returns show an increase of population during the year of upwards of seven thousand eight hundred souls.

The population returns were compiled in the Colonial Secretary's Office with great care from the official returns of births, deaths, arrivals and departures; and so nearly accurate were they, that at the time of the last census the difference was not more than one per cent.

The manufacture of wine is also rapidly increasing, fifty thousand gallons having been made in 1844; an increase of sixteen thousand gallons on the year 1843.

There are many new tables this year, chiefly from the Customs department, showing the imports and exports of grain, live stock, hides, bark, butter, cheese, salt meat, &c., and the result in all these cases is most gratifying to the Colony. "We may observe," says the *Sydney Herald*, "that the returns which Mr. Lamb intends to move for will also be very important, and be of great assistance in the consideration of the various questions which will arise in providing for the deficiency of revenue which will be caused, at any rate in the first instance, by the reduction of the duty on spirits.

"Our flocks and herds continue to increase. We had on the last day of 1844 nine thousand horses, one hundred and forty-two thousand head of cattle, and five hundred and fifty thousand sheep more than we had on the last day of 1843.

"The returns respecting the quantity of tallow manufactured are not so complete as they will be in future years, some of the establishments not having kept accurate accounts; but returns have been received showing that two hundred and eighteen thousand sheep and twenty thousand head of cattle were boiled down during the year, yielding forty-eight thousand seven hundred and fifty-eight hundred weight of tallow, which we estimate was worth, in the Colony, £78,000, and would have formed cargoes for six large ships, supposing them to have taken nothing but tallow."

These returns are all extremely gratifying, and afford proofs of the gradual revival of the affairs of the Colony, which is visible in almost every branch of our pursuits; and this will be seen more fully by all who take the trouble to inspect them closely, and make themselves master of the details.

COIN.—Return of Coin in the Colonial Treasury, the Military Chest, and the several Banks, on the 31st Dec. in each year from 1836 to 1844 inclusive:—1836, Colonial Treasury, £218,630; Banks, £202 2s. 11d.—Total, £420,720 2s. 11d. 1837, Treasury, £245,250; Banks, £182,182 11s. 6d.—Total, £427,432 11s. 6d. 1838, Treasury, £163,000; Banks, £357,127 11s. 5d.—Total, £520,127 11s. 5d. 1839, Treasury, £124,100; Banks, 391,969 16s. 7d.—Total, £519,069 16s. 7d. 1840, Treasury, £38,900; Military Chest, £49,151 18s. 9d.; Banks, £309,529 15s.—Total, £397,581 13s. 9d. 1841, Treasury, £25,000; Military Chest, £10,000; Banks, £427,624 17s. 9d.—Total, £462,624 17s. 9d. 1842, Military Chest, £32,409 14s. 5d.; Banks, £142,980 4s. 3d.—Total, £175,389 18s. 8d. 1843, Military Chest, £3,000; Banks, £420,972 0s. 5d.—Total, £423,972 0s. 5d. 1844, Military Chest, £11,000; Banks, £548,923 0s. 1d.—Total, £559,923 0s. 1d., being an increase on the year 1843 of £135,950 19s. 8d.

EXPORTED PRODUCE OF THE FISHERIES.—Return of the quantity and value of Oil, Whalebone, and Sealskins exported from the Colony from the year 1835 to 1844 inclusive:—1835, sperm oil, 2898 tons; black oil, 1159 tons; whalebone, 112 tons; sealskins, 641: total value, as entered in the returns of exports, £180,349. 1836, sperm oil, 1682 tons; black oil, 1149 tons; whalebone, 79 tons; sealskins, 386: total value, £140,220. 1837, sperm oil, 2559 tons; black oil, 1565 tons; whalebone, 77 tons 8 cwt.; sealskins, 107: total value, £183,122. 1838, sperm oil, 1891 tons; black oil, 3055 tons; whalebone, 174 tons; sealskins, 3 cases: total value, £197,644. 1839, sperm oil, 1578 tons; black oil, 1229 tons; whalebone, 134 tons 14 cwt.; sealskins, 7 cases: total value, £172,315. 1840, sperm oil, 1854 tons; black oil, 4297 tons; whalebone, 250 tons; sealskins, 474: total value, £224,144. 1841, sperm oil, 1545 tons; black oil, 1018 tons; whalebone, 84 tons 13 cwt.; sealskins 41: total value, £127,470. 1842, sperm oil, 957 tons; black oil, 1171 tons; whalebone, 60 tons 5 cwt.; sealskins, 162: total value, £77,012. 1843, sperm oil, 1115 tons; black oil, 190 tons; whalebone, 22 tons 8 cwt.; sealskins, 155: total value, £72,989. 1844, sperm oil, 810 tons; black oil, 526 tons; whalebone, 15 tons 18 cwt.; sealskins, 3 bales: total value, £57,493.

EXPORT OF GRAIN.—Return of the quantity and value of Grain, &c., exported from the Colony of New South Wales (including the District of Port Phillip) during the years 1843 and 1844:—

1843, 273 bushels of wheat; 4,687 of maize; 1,870 of barley, oats, and pease; 3,146,192 lbs. of flour and bread; and 47 tons of potatoes. Total value of exports, £13,486.

1844, 825 bushels of wheat; 26,184 of maize; 1,798 of barley, oats, and pease; 2,028,344 lbs. of flour and bread; and 60 tons of potatoes. Total value, £12,232.

RETURN of the Quantity and Value of Grain, &c., Imported into the Colony of New South Wales (including the District of Port Phillip) from the Year 1835 to 1844 inclusive.

IMPORTS OF GRAIN.

Year.	Wheat.	Maize.	Barley, Oats, and Pease.	Flour and Bread.	Rice.	Potatoes.	Total value as entered in Returns of Imports.
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Pounds.	Pounds.	Tons.	£
1835	122908	895	12031	1377018	1129551	520	72920
1836	263956	8180	27567	3385550	474358	1304	146149
1837	111161	3395	7031	1552658	176030	545	61006
1838	79328	6040	58927	2478712	728346	1167	64313
1839	171207	30862	64093	3579076	1414747	1189	285110
1840	290843	19185	63363	7108663	6849896	1723	217063
1841	239224	12773	41610	14929503	3603076	480	201632
1842	163224	1120	37798	7217016	2260046	1401	113070
1843	395374	583	61361	6941760	1578208	547	112387
1844	265701	17	35194	{ 4370210 & 250 casks of Biscuit. }	260288	1085	65442

RETURN showing the Population of the Colony of New South Wales (including the District of Port Phillip) from the Year 1835 to 1844 inclusive.

POPULATION.

Year.	Adults.		Children.	Total.
	Male.	Females.		
1835	45259	12647	13686	71592
1836	48375	14550	14171	77096
1837	52009	15918	17250	85267
1838	57485	18900	22427	97912
1839	63784	21998	28604	114386
1840	70021	25476	33966	129463
1841	75474	33546	40649	149669
1842	76528	35762	47599	159889
1843	76147	35474	53920	165541
1844	74912	36170	62295	173377

POPULATION.—Return of the increase and decrease of the Population (including the District of Port Phillip) from 1st Jan. to 31st Dec. 1844, and of the total number at the latter date.—Increase by immigration—males, 5929; females, 2880; total, 8809. Births—males, 4004; females, 3952; total, 7956; general total of increase, 16,765. Decrease by deaths—males, 1381; females, 760; total, 2141. Departure from the Colony—males, 3936; females, 1116:

total, 5052: total decrease, 7193, leaving a net increase during the year of 9572. —The total population on the 31st Dec., 1844, was as follows:—males, 107,945; females, 67,168: total, 175,113: deducting from this number 1736, the population of Norfolk Island (1636 males, and 100 females), which has been attached to Van Diemen's Land, the gross population of the Colony will be 173,377 souls.

RETURN showing the quantity of Land in Cultivation (exclusive of Gardens and Orchards) in the Colony of New South Wales (including the District of Port Phillip) from the year 1835 to 1844 inclusive.

CROPS.

Year.	Wheat.	Maize.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Millet.	Potatoes.	Tobacco.	Sown Grasses, Oats, & Bar- ley, for Hay.	Total Number of Acres in Crop.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acr.	Acr.	Acres.	Acr.	Acres.	Acres.
1835	47051	20831	2903	2278	599	59	1081	321	4133	79256
1836	51616	17503	3062	4276	720	14	977	461	8803	87132
1837	59975	18381	2551	3893	493	80	1165	533	5054	92125
1838	48060	25013	2922	3767	429	39	1788	925	9939	92912
1839	48101	22026	3190	6793	483	46	1115	424	12534	95312
1840	74133	24966	5144	5453	609	115	2594	381	12721	126116
1841	58605	25004	5423	5892	495	47	4027	380	15257	115130
1842	65188	27324	5320	4467	486	99	5174	224	18592	126874
1843	78083	29061	5727	4537	514	42	5872	655	21162	145653
1844	81903	20798	7236	4336	359	43	6783	871	21766	144095

PRODUCE.

Wheat.	Maize.	Barley.	Oats.	Rye.	Millet.	Potatoes.	Tobacco.	Hay.
Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bush.	Tons.	Cwt.	Tons.
526266	503314	47249	13155	7461	727	1336*	2146*	2315
884244	390132	60057	23412	10818	18	1870*	4145*	14853
692620	632155	51147	17119	6753	695	2102	2034	5627
469140	556268	32103	13416	4878	353	3496	4952	6960
805140	525507	66033	27788	7008	283	2601	2509	25923
1116814	777947	105399	66020	8863	3338	11050	4300	21329
832776	503803	90172	62704	6507	1072	11141	2612	17175
854432	590134	88767	84321	4451	1201	12561	2014	18622
1000225	719358	95658	92268	5145	410	16392	6098	27774
1308949	575857	132575	70620	4475	511	22716	6382	31788

Note.—From 1835 to 1841, the crops and produce from land beyond the boundaries of location are not included. The Commissioner for Gipps' Land has not returned the *produce* of the crops in that district for 1844.

* About.

EXPORT OF WOOL.—Return of the quantity and value of Wool exported from the year 1835 to 1844 inclusive—

	Quantity.	Value.
1835 . . .	3,893,927 lbs.	£299,587
1836 . . .	3,693,211 „	369,324
1837 . . .	4,448,796 „	322,166
1838 . . .	5,749,376 „	405,977
1839 . . .	7,213,584 „	442,504
1840 . . .	8,610,775 „	566,112
1841 . . .	8,390,540 „	517,537
1842 . . .	9,428,036 „	595,175
1843 . . .	12,701,899 „	685,617
1844 . . .	13,542,173 „	645,344

EXPORT OF TALLOW.—Quantity of Tallow exported in the year 1843: 5,680 cwt. 2 qrs. 36 lbs.; value, £9,639. Tallow exported in the year 1844: 56,609 cwt. 2 qrs. 7 lbs.; value, £83,511. Increase in value of the quantity exported in 1844 over that of the previous year, £73,872.

TALLOW AND LARD.—Return of Live Stock slaughtered, and of the quantity of Tallow and Lard produced from the same, in the year 1844:—Sydney or Middle District—36 boiling-down establishments:—sheep slaughtered, 97,465; horned cattle slaughtered, 14,938; tallow produced, 22,721½ cwt.; hogs slaughtered, 285; lard produced, 9,887 lbs. Beyond the boundaries of location—7 boiling-down establishments:—sheep slaughtered, 29,815; horned cattle slaughtered, 1953; tallow produced, 6180 cwt.; hogs slaughtered, 103; lard produced, 1594 lbs. Port Phillip or Southern District—4 boiling-down establishments:—sheep slaughtered, 90,517; horned cattle slaughtered, 3257; tallow produced, 19,856½ cwt.; hogs slaughtered, 36; lard produced, 1048 lbs. Total—47 boiling-down establishments, 217,797 sheep slaughtered; 20,148 horned cattle slaughtered; 48,758 cwt. tallow produced; 424 hogs slaughtered; 12,529 lbs. lard produced. From the proprietors of one establishment in the Sydney District, and of two in the Parramatta District, no information could be obtained. The proprietor of an establishment in the Illawarra District has returned 8386 sheep and 415 head of cattle slaughtered—and another proprietor of one in the Goulburn District 823 head of cattle slaughtered, but state that they have not kept an account of the quantity of tallow produced.

LAND SALES.—Return of the amounts received from the Sale of Crown Lands in the Colony (including the District of Port Phillip) from the year 1835 to 1844 inclusive:—1835, £80,784 11s. 6d.; 1836, £126,458 16s.; 1837, £120,427 0s. 5d.; 1838, £116,324 18s. 11d.; 1839, £152,962 16s. 4d.; 1840, £316,626 7s. 5d.; 1841, £90,387 16s. 10d.; 1842, £14,574 10s. 4d.; 1843, £11,297 3s. 9d.; 1844, £7402 18s. 6d. Total, £1,037,247 3s.—In the year 1831, Lord Ripon's regulations for the abolition of free grants, and the sale by auction of all Crown lands, were first promulgated in the Colony. In the year 1839 the minimum price was raised from 5s. to 12s. an acre, but did not extend to lands previously advertised at the former rate, of which there was a very large quantity at the time. In the year 1841 the system of sale at a fixed price of £1 per acre was introduced into the District of Port Phillip. In the year 1842 the system of sale by auction was resumed throughout the Colony at a minimum upset price of 12s. per acre for country lands, with liberty to select portions not bid for at the upset price. In the year 1843 the minimum price was raised to £1 per acre, by the Act of the Imperial Parliament 5th and 6th Victoria, cap. 36, with liberty to select at the upset price country portions put up to auction and not bid for, or on which the deposit had been forfeited.

VINEYARDS.—Return of the number of acres of land planted with the grape-vine, and of the quantity of wine and brandy made from the produce thereof, in the year 1845.—*Sydney or Middle District*:—Argyle, nil. Bathurst, nil. Bligh, 2 acres; wine, 120 gallons; brandy, nil. Brisbane, 33 acres; wine,

2750 gallons; brandy, nil. Camden, 40 acres; wine, 13,800 gallons; brandy, 330 gallons (brandy is distilled under the authority of the 39th section of the Act of the Colonial Legislature, 3 Victoria, No. 9, by the proprietors of vineyards). Cook, 31 acres; wine, 2120 gallons; brandy, 60 gallons. Cumberland, 146 acres; wine, 11,385 gallons; brandy, 427 gallons. Durham, 77 acres; wine, 9629 gallons; brandy, 75 gallons. Georgiana, nil. Gloucester, 9⁰⁰ acres; wine, 3240 gallons; brandy, 36 gallons. Hunter, 35 acres; wine, 480 gallons; brandy, nil. King, 5 acres; wine, nil; brandy, nil. Macquarie, 10 acres; wine, 1648 gallons; brandy, nil. Murray, 2 acres; wine, nil; brandy, nil. Northumberland, 69 acres; wine, 5382 gallons; brandy, 90 gallons. Phillip, 1 acre; wine, nil; brandy, nil. Roxburgh, 3 acres; wine, 12 gallons; brandy, nil. St. Vincent, nil. Stanley, 3 acres; wine, nil; brandy, nil. Wellington, nil. Westmoreland, nil. *Port Phillip, or Southern District*:—Port Phillip, 10 acres; wine, 100 gallons; brandy, nil. Total, 566 acres; wine, 50,566 gallons; brandy, 1018 gallons.

SHIPPING.—Return of the number of Vessels built and registered in the Colony from the year 1835 to 1844 inclusive:—

VESSELS BUILT.						
Year.	No. of Vessels.					Tons
1835	.	7	.	.	.	303
1836	.	9	.	.	.	301
1837	.	17	.	.	.	760
1838	.	20	.	.	.	808
1839	.	12	.	.	.	773
1840	.	18	.	.	.	1207
1841	.	35	.	.	.	2074
1842	.	26	.	.	.	1357
1843	.	47	.	.	.	1433
1844	.	18	.	.	.	519

VESSELS REGISTERED.							
Year.	No. of Vessels.						Tons
1835	.	.	.	21	.	.	2267
1836	.	.	.	39	.	.	4560
1837	.	.	.	36	.	.	3603
1838	.	.	.	41	.	.	6229
1839	.	.	.	79	.	.	10862
1840	.	.	.	98	.	.	12426
1841	.	.	.	110	.	.	11250
1842	.	.	.	89	.	.	9968
1843	.	.	.	92	.	.	7022
1844	.	.	.	87	.	.	8087

AUCTION DUTY.—Return of the amount of Auction Duty, at 1½ per cent., paid into the Colonial Treasury, and of the amount of Sales subject to the said duty, from the year 1835 to 1844 inclusive.

Year.	Amount of Duty.			Amount of Sales.		
1835	£3135	16	2	£209053	17	9½
1836	4697	11	5	313471	7	9½
1837	4820	3	11	321346	7	9½
1838	6137	10	1	409166	18	10½
1839	7700	16	5	513388	1	1½
1840	18701	2	10	1246742	15	6½
1841	14455	9	1	963696	18	10½
1842	10291	6	8	686088	17	9½
1843	6818	9	6	454565	0	0
1844	4662	9	5	310831	8	0
Totals .	81520	15	6	5498051	13	7

Return of the Number and Tonnage of Vessels entered Inwards, in the Colony of New South Wales (including the District of Port Phillip), from the Year 1835 to 1844 inclusive.

SHIPPING INWARDS.

Year.	From Great Britain.		From British Colonies.				From South Sea Islands.		From Fisheries.		From United States.		From Foreign States.		Total.	
			New Zealand.		Elsewhere.											
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.		
1835*	47	17530	..	....	132	28507	12	2282	23	5899	6	1400	40	7401	260	63019
1836	60	23610	41	5430	124	25861	4	546	25	6031	3	975	12	2962	269	65415
1837	56	21816	36	5480	233	33751	5	581	48	13004	5	1220	17	4262	400	80114
1838	102	41848	38	4291	241	34469	6	616	31	7928	1	274	9	2351	428	91777
1839	137	58123	51	8368	290	45928	7	836	36	9321	4	1177	38	11721	563	135474
1840	190	80806	68	13123	347	53625	6	750	27	8087	8	2520	63	20047	709	178958
1841	251	106332	48	7601	322	43922	3	358	23	6163	13	4754	54	14684	714	183778
1842	137	55114	81	14085	282	42365	19	2902	20	5806	7	2762	82	20837	628	143921
1843	87	35914	43	6229	325	43934	25	4194	30	7967	5	1116	43	11510	558	110864
1844	78	34765	54	7189	226	31195	13	1831	27	7888	3	1005	16	3666	417	87539

* 1835.—Vessels entered from New Zealand are included with those from "Foreign States."

RETURN of the Number and Tonnage of Vessels entered Outwards, in the Colony of New South Wales (including the District of Port Phillip), from the Year 1835 to 1844 inclusive.

SHIPPING OUTWARDS.

Year.	To Great Britain.				To British Colonies.				To South Sea Islands.		To Fisheries.		To United States.		To Foreign States.		Total.	
	To Great Britain.		To British Colonies.		New Zealand.		Elsewhere.		To South Sea Islands.		To Fisheries.		To United States.		To Foreign States.		Total.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
1835*	31	11261	..	....	90	15281	..	....	..	....	..	....	..	....	148	39882	269	66964
1836	32	9759	36	4709	106	22895	..	....	..	....	36	8484	..	....	54	16987	264	62834
1837	43	13398	45	6721	230	34295	..	....	..	....	42	10344	..	....	42	13262	402	78020
1838	35	12367	39	5358	216	28494	5	362	5	362	40	10385	1	289	73	35749	409	93004
1839	39	13886	81	13581	303	52749	7	1216	7	1216	28	7718	2	621	88	35005	548	124776
1840	54	18774	83	17111	350	66131	6	737	6	737	22	6199	4	950	146	53802	665	163704
1841	54	16418	80	14607	340	68449	10	2002	10	2002	19	5053	1	341	186	65248	690	172118
1842	54	16323	78	13080	328	56891	15	2749	15	2749	25	7318	2	705	131	37904	633	134970
1843	70	22154	54	10018	322	43874	42	9783	42	9783	21	5793	..	....	55	18404	564	110026
1844	67	24163	58	8590	357	52551	21	2796	21	2796	24	6724	..	....	42	14418	569	109242

* 1835.—Vessels entered for the South Sea Islands, New Zealand, &c., are included with those for "Foreign States."

RETURN of Live Stock in the Colony on the 1st of Jan. 1845.

Counties or Districts.	Description of Stock.			
	Horses.	Horned Cattle.	Pigs.	Sheep.
<i>Sydney or Middle District.</i>	No.	No.	No.	No.
Argyle	3016	22271	1677	249791
Bathurst	2543	27064	815	178070
Bligh	751	10273	101	73181
Brisbane	1222	10493	268	140106
Camden	4922	32805	4989	46050
Cook	2059	8346	3401	14430
Cumberland	11380	30265	11459	6455
Durham	4117	43445	6659	109866
Georgiana	2291	17752	901	99913
Gloucester	1907	22905	1605	90276
Hunter	1331	7292	2549	13794
King	882	12755	411	78721
Macquarie	1102	16192	887	13552
Murray	2371	22890	1110	233069
Northumberland	4328	31013	7292	40251
Phillip	787	5116	92	64770
Roxburgh	1000	6000	500	50000
St. Vincent	1437	26295	1785	64150
Stanley	85	424	185	145
Wellington	713	9121	215	108795
Westmoreland	1160	8322	668	38900
	49420	272847	47569	1714285
<i>Commissioners' Districts beyond the Boundaries of Location.</i>				
Bligh	677	34894	Nil.	102889
Clarence River	650	21069	630	122942
Darling Downs	420	10829	110	136359
Lachlan	2017	73688	1156	153149
Liverpool Plains	2121	148187	100	260146
M'Leay River	525	17430	470	9549
Maneroo	4138	127175	844	236516
Moreton Bay	409	10773	74	161788
Murrumbidgee	1635	69494	500	207741
New England	1095	43377	500	454193
Wellington	686	41796	243	184175
	14673	598712	4627	2029447
<i>Port Phillip or Southern District.</i>				
Bourke	936	18262	1546	82902
Grant	439	4241	890	133400
Normanby	86	412	627	605
Without the Boundaries	5615	164958	983	1644005
	7076	187873	4046	1880812
General Total	71169	159432	56242	5604644

RETURN of the Value of Imports and Exports into the Colony of New South Wales (including the District of Port Phillip) from the Year 1835 to 1844 inclusive.

IMPORTS.

Year.	From Great Britain.	From Br. Colonies.		From South Sea Islands.	From Fisheries.	From United States.	From Foreign States.	Total.
		New Zealand.	Elsewhere.					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1835	707133	35542	144824	1120	141823	13902	70161	1114805
1836	794422	32155	220251	1972	103575	22739	62289	1237406
1837	837261	42886	257427	1761	80141	9777	27922	1297491
1838	1102127	53911	255975	5518	71506	8066	82112	1579277
1839	1251969	71709	504828	3863	186212	23093	191697	2236371
1840	2200305	54192	376954	1348	101895	21164	252331	3014189
1841	1837369	45659	286637	24361	87809	35282	200871	2527988
1842	854774	37426	260955	10020	64999	20117	206948	1445059
1843	1034942	15738	211291	22387	42379	12041	211566	1560544
1844	643419	20795	133128	10624	32507	17187	73600	931260

EXPORTS.

Year.	To Great Britain.	To Brit. Colonies.		To South Sea Islands.	To Fisheries.	To United States.	To Foreign States.	Total.
		New Zealand.	Elsewhere.					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
1835	496345	39984	83108	2696	38445	18594	3011	682193
1836	513976	36184	136596	9628	35918	13697	2625	748624
1837	518951	39528	118447	485	51434	10617	17592	760054
1838	583154	46924	113716	7137	33988	11324	6525	802768
1839	597100	95173	194684	1347	34729	18568	7175	948776
1840	792494	215486	304724	6621	27864	27885	24618	1399692
1841	706336	114980	123968	13144	18417	4837	41715	1023397
1842	685705	131784	166239	3005	22862	17101	40715	1067411
1843	825885	79764	205992	17934	18827	....	23918	1172320
1844	854903	70799	165553	14106	11623	....	11131	1128115

EXPORT OF BARK.—Quantity of Bark exported in 1843: 1,199 tons and 6 casks; value, as entered in the returns of exports, £5,179. Export of 1844: 2,926½ tons and 20 casks; value, £9,114. Increase in value over the export of the previous year, £3,935.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF SALT MEAT.—The value of Salt Meat imported in 1843 was £19,286; and 1844, £3,355. The exports of Salt Meat in 1843 was 2,867 casks and 856½ tons of beef, pork, and mutton; and 224 lbs. weight of tongues; total value, £13,924. The exports of 1844 were 4,292 casks, and 294½ tons of beef, pork, and mutton; 20,612 mutton and bacon hams, and 110 cwt. of tongues, with 150 tongues, weight not calculated. Total value, £18,730.

IMPORT OF LIVE STOCK.—Return of Live Stock imported into the Colony from 1835 to 1844, inclusive:—1835.—11 horses, 137 sheep and hogs. 1836.—8 horses, 4 horned cattle, 449 sheep and hogs. 1837.—92 horses, 97 horned cattle, 55,208 sheep, 308 sheep and hogs not classified. 1838.—185 horses, 71 horned cattle, 9,822 sheep, 192 sheep and hogs not classified. 1839.—652 horses, 135 horned cattle, 17,567 sheep, 359 sheep and hogs not classified. 1840.—1,008 horses, 241 horned cattle, 19,958 sheep, 252 sheep and hogs not classified. 1841.—875 horses, 156 horned cattle, 530 sheep, 50 hogs. 1842.—113 horses, 89 horned cattle, 633 sheep, 65 hogs. 1843.—31 horses, 28 horned cattle, 609 sheep, 4 hogs. 1844.—52 horses, 21 horned cattle, and 307 sheep.

EXPORT OF LIVE STOCK.—The Live Stock exported in 1843 consisted of 243 horses, 2 asses and mules, 1,852 horned cattle, and 77,116 sheep; the total value being £41,915. The export of 1844 was 489 horses, 3 asses and mules, 3,329 horned cattle, and 53,318 sheep; the total value being £40,394.

IMPORT AND EXPORT OF TIMBER.—The total value of Timber imported in the year 1843 was £10,156; and in 1841, £4,195. The value of timber exported in 1835 was £10,489; in 1836, £14,611; in 1837, £14,463; in 1838, £6,382; in 1839, £8,815; in 1840, £20,971; in 1841, £7,004; in 1842, £5,800; in 1843, £1,812; and in 1844, £3,825.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF BUTTER AND CHEESE.—The quantity of Butter and Cheese imported in the year 1843 was 248,170 lbs., and its value £9,497; the quantity of these articles exported during the same year was 81,173 lbs., and its value £3,488. The imports of these articles in 1844 amounted to 60,701 lbs., and their value to £1,184; the exports of the year being 188,174 lbs., value £3,717.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS OF HIDES AND LEATHER.—Value of Hides and Leather imported in 1843, 36,185; value of above articles exported during that year, £10,305. Imports of hides and leather in 1841, 19,841; exports, £22,285.

SOME ACCOUNT OF PRINCE OF WALES ISLAND,

WITH REFERENCE TO ITS PHYSICAL, AGRICULTURAL, AND MEDICAL
CHARACTERS.

(Continued from vol. vi. page 389.)

TULLOH TEECOOSE, or Vale of Tempe, is situated east of Tulloh Bahang and Battu Feringhee. The belt of hills which bounds the latter on the east bounds this district on the west, and therefore separates them. A road, or at least a good wide path, runs across the district of Tulloh Teechoose, and then across the hills connecting it with Battu Feringhee; its length may be about four miles, but the distance across the hills

from the nearest point of the one district to the other is little more than two miles. Like Battu Feringhee, it is bounded on the north by the sea, and on all other sides by hills covered with forest. The hills forming the west boundary belong to the West Mountain range, and, as just noticed, divide this district from Battu Feringhee; the hills on the south boundary are Mount Olivia and the ridge—sometimes called Waterfall Valley Hill—which it will be recollected formed the medium of union between Mount Olivia and the Western range; Mount Erskine forms the eastern boundary. This district comprises an area of from 700 to 800 acres. The soil differs a good deal in different parts. That near the hills of the western boundary, to a considerable extent eastward, is a silicious red clay, slightly mixed with vegetable mould, which gradually diminishes with the distance from the foot of the hill. Close to the hills there are a few Mangosteen, Durian, and other fruit trees, which thrive very well. Further east is a strip of lallang, formerly cultivated with pepper, and then comes a line of fruit trees of an inferior description. Adjoining this part of the valley, but still more to the eastward, there is a considerable tract of highly-pulverized silicious soil, of great depth, which extends to a beautiful stream, which divides the valley into a west and east side. This soil, although very sandy, appears well adapted for certain species of cultivation; but it probably owes its productiveness, like the soil of the two former districts, to being favourably circumstanced for a constant supply of moisture. When originally cleared, it was planted out with pepper, some very good crops of which it produced. After that kind of cultivation was abandoned, a considerable part was laid out in plantations of the orange and lime, but the greater part has more recently been cultivated with spice trees—the clove chiefly. The orange and lime tree have here attained a greater perfection than they have done in any other part of the island, and, at the present time, they have all, excepting a few old trees situated at the southern extremity of this side of the valley, a very healthy appearance, and their fruit has gained a preference, and commands a better price in the market than the fruit of the trees of any of the other districts. The soil, however, seems peculiarly adapted for the growth of the clove tree, the plantations of which have a very flourishing look. The soil along the east side of the river, for about 500 feet in width, is of a more clayey and consistent nature. A portion is planted with cloves, which are also thriving well. Near the extreme east of the valley, adjoining the north-western part of Mount Erskine, there are about 1000 clove trees which do not appear healthy. The remainder of this side is overgrown with lallang. Along the north or sea boundary there is a broad sandy beach having an average breadth of 800 feet. It is planted with cocoanut trees, most of which are in a bearing state, and appear productive. The whole of this valley (with the exception of about 50 acres, held by three Malayan families, on the extreme north) belongs to D. W. Brown, Esq., of Glugore. About 400 acres is under cultivation. It has a population of about 300.

The following is the number of trees planted out :—

	Bearing.	Not bearing.	Total.
Nutmegs	. 235	1003	1238
Cloves	. 1574	5117	6691
Cocoanuts	. 2607	1166	3773
Betelnut	. 2141	93	2241
Oranges	. 704	305	1009
Fruit trees	. 2294	280	2574

There are about 10 acres cultivated with vegetables and indigo. There is no land fit for cultivation at the disposal of Government.

Tanjong Tokong.—The district or village known by this name is situated to the eastward of the last, and is partly divided from it by Mount Erskine. It is bounded as follows : east, by the sea ; west, by a line winding along the base of Mount Olivia and Mount Erskine ; south, by a path called Pine Apple Lane ; and north, by Tulloh Teechoose and the sea. This district derives its name from a rock, standing at the east point of the bay, called Pulo Ticoosc, consecrated by the Chinese as a temple, and held in greater veneration than any other in the island. This rock has occasioned frequent disputes, often carried to bloodshed, amongst the different sects of Chinese, and a small congsi or company of them lately paid 450 dls. for the rock and about one-third of an acre of ground around, to have a superior claim to the place. The carriage-road does not extend so far through the district as to reach the temple, but yet, from the numerous and large bands of Chinese who daily visit it, laden with offerings of fruits and sweetmeats to their Jos or God, it is one of the most frequented spots in the settlement.

This district includes within its limits, the Macao-Chinese burying-ground, on either side of the public road leading from town to Mount Erskine, the whole of the cultivated part of Mount Olivia, and a part of Mount Erskine. The level portion is placed between the sea and these hills, and is broadest midway between them. The northern half of the sea-face possesses a sandy beach ; the remainder is covered with a strip of mangrove jungle, which increases in width as it proceeds to the south. Adjoining these there are several cocoanut plantations, and behind the latter there are several fruit and small spice plantations. Still further back from the beach, there is a very extensive tract of land, certainly not less than 300 acres, entirely covered with pine apples, which here thrive remarkably well, and without the least care bestowed on them. In the midst of the tract, a few cocoanut, betelnut, and fruit trees are growing. This pine-apple field extends, from the small spice plantations above referred to, right across the main public road, where it is stopped by a lallang tract, skirting the jungle adjoining Mount Olivia and Mount Erskine, and the ridge uniting the two. The soil here appears to be very light and sandy, but with a redder tinge than a majority of the sands in the Tulloh Ayre Rajah Panguluship. It is very free from gravel, more especially on the east side of the road to Mont Erskine, and seems in many places superior to the majority of soils chosen for spice cultivation in this Panguluship. The whole of this tract is nearly free from lallang ; and altogether the appearance of

the ground, with its fine fields of pine apple, is very different from any other part of the settlement. Around the hill, the soil becomes stiffer; but on the lower undulating ridge, lying between Mount Olivia and Mount Erskine, it becomes more gravelly, and more so still on these hills. All the hills in this neighbourhood are very deficient of vegetable mould. The village called Tanjong Tokong is inhabited principally by fishermen and Chulia boatmen. The latter take up their station here from its being conveniently situated for the occupation which they follow of boarding vessels coming in through the north channel, to secure the office of Deebash to the vessels during their stay in harbour. It is also a favourite landing and starting place for persons coming from and going to Qualla Muda, on the opposite coast. Cattle brought from thence are generally landed here and exposed for sale in the neighbourhood. The sea has made great encroachments on the beach. Within the last twelve years it has taken away fully seven acres of fine cocoanuts, each acre containing not less than twenty trees. Bagan Jermal village is principally a fishing station. A contiguous creek affords the inhabitants means of access by boats to the sea at high water. In the neighbourhood a great many Scree vine trees are grown, and some of the mangosteens here are the largest and most productive in the settlement. There is a small Chinese temple adjoining to the north of this village.

Nearly the whole of the land in this district has been granted away; and what remains lies between the lands of proprietors on the west of the public road and Mount Olivia, and cannot be much above 100 acres, to which there would be difficulty of access, from being surrounded on all sides by the lands of private individuals. The whole extent of land in Tanjong Tokong may amount to about 1000 acres; of which 450 acres are planted with spice, cocoanut, betelnut, fruit trees, and pine apples; 180 acres is mangrove jungle, and the remainder waste land belonging to Government and private proprietors. Of this 70 acres are occupied by the Macao-Chinese burying-ground. The number of landed proprietors is about 26, consisting of a variety of classes. The population may amount to about 1000. The number of trees cultivated in this district may be stated as follows:—

	Bearing.	Not bearing.	Total
Nutmegs	468	1914	2372
Cloves	100	964	1064
Cocoanuts	3494	1487	4981
Betelnut	6937	1739	8676
Fruit trees	1321	919	2040

Pulo Iicoose Village, or Burmah Town.—This district is bounded as follows:—On the north by Pine Apple Lane, which separates it from Tanjong Tokong, to the south and east of which it is situated; south, by Soonghy Nepah, and the portion of New Cross road which unites Northam with Burmah road; east, by the sea; and west, by Burmah road. It comprises about 250 acres, all of which is under careful cultivation, excepting two small pieces lying near its east boundary, the one occupied as a brick manufactory, the other as a waste marsh.

The soil of all the cultivated ground is of a very uniform quality, having throughout a poor sandy character. This district, from some cause or other, has gained amongst the middling classes a preference over the other districts, and has consequently become divided amongst a great number, upwards of ninety small proprietors. On each property there is a dwelling-house, and the rest of the ground is cultivated with spices and the finer kinds of fruit trees with considerable taste. They have bestowed much trouble and expense in cultivating and manuring the soil, and from this the trees of all kinds are equal in appearance at the present time to those grown in any of the other districts, and previous to the severe droughts which have been experienced during the last three years, even looked better. The trees have only attained this state of perfection and retain it at an outlay bearing no proportion to the average expense required for the cultivation in better soils. It is probable, therefore, if the produce continues to fall in value, of which, as regards the finer kind of spices, particularly the nutmeg, there is every chance, the lands of this district will not be able to compete in that kind of cultivation with the lands having superior soil in other parts of the island, and may possibly in a few years hence be ultimately abandoned for such produce. About twenty acres, lying near the New Cross road, and separated by the Northam road from the marshy spot above alluded to, was formerly paddie land of an inferior description, but during the last six years two-thirds of it have been drained and converted into spice-gardens and sites for dwellings, and the remaining third has been turned by the Chinese into good productive vegetable gardens.

The number of trees in this district is about the following :—

	Bearing.	bearing.	Total.
Nutmegs	769	3774	4543
Cloves	22	9	31
Cocoanuts	1331	1931	3262
Betelnut	1739	2695	4434
Fruit trees	546	839	1385

The population of the district is estimated at 2000, and consists chiefly of Chinese, Burmese, and Siamese.

Within its limits are several public buildings or institutions, of which the General College, or the Anglo-Chinese College, is one. The "institution known under the above appellation is, under the control and direction of the French Missionaries. The main object of it is to educate young natives of China, Cochin China, Siam, &c., and to qualify them for admittance into sacred orders, or for the humbler but no less important duties of native teachers. As the inmates of the institution belong to various nations, a language common to all is required; the Latin tongue supplies the deficiency, and becomes the usual channel for exchanging ideas." The students having completed the curriculum of the college, are "sent back to their native country to be promoted to sacred orders by their superior, or employed in some other capacity to labour for the spread of the Gospel." The college was erected in 1812. For many years the average number of pupils in

it was eighteen ; but in 1835, owing to a violent persecution in Cochin China, directed against the Missionaries there, "the Bishop of that Mission brought over to the college a number of pupils, and from that period the number has been on the increase,"* and the students are believed now to number ninety-four. There cannot be a doubt that this is a most valuable establishment. The Mission to which it belongs enjoys a justly-earned character for the zeal, ability, and assiduity with which its Missionaries discharge their important duties. They have exerted themselves with great ability, and their labours have unquestionably obtained a greater number of converts from the Heathen to their faith than have the efforts of any other set of Missionaries that ever laboured in this settlement. The college is situated close to the sea, and about a mile and a half south of it, more into the interior of the country, is the Roman Catholic Church of Pulo Ticoose, opened in 1836. Here the students are assembled on Sundays and other days devoted to divine worship.

About a quarter of a mile east of the Pulo Ticoose Church are two Bhudish temples or pagodas, the principal of the kind in the island. They occupy two pieces of ground between the Northam and Burmah roads, which are separated by a road running between them and uniting the two former roads. The one on the east side is the largest, and belongs to the Siamese ; the other belongs to the Burmese. To those who have not seen such structures, they are worthy of a visit.

Sepoy Line and Dhoby Ghaut Villages.—This is the most southern of the districts in this Panguluship, and is bounded on the north by Burmah road ; on the south, by Penang road ; on the east, by that portion of New Cross road which stretches from Burmah to Macalisters road, and then by Macalisters round to Pinang road, where the southern boundary begins ; and west, by West Cross road and Waterfall river. All the boundaries are crooked, but the east one in particular. The district is estimated to have an area of nearly 900 acres ; of this 170 belong to Government, and the rest to private people. Nearly the whole is carefully cultivated, with the exception of the Government land, which is occupied by public buildings and what is laid out for other public uses. The cultivation embraces almost every article the island produces. The soil is very sandy and uniformly poor throughout, but—as in the case of the previous district of Pulo Ticoose—much has been effected by manuring and careful labour. It appears, however, well adapted for the growth of the cocoanut, betelnut, and a few kind of fruit trees : nevertheless these have not been cultivated to any considerable extent. The production of spice trees again, for which the soil is not at all fitted, has engaged the principal attention of the proprietors ; and this must have happened from their having a natural desire to grow that which was then yielding the most valuable kinds of produce, and from their believing—as many did some years ago—that it signified little what the quality of the soil was for the cultivation of spices, provided

* Pinang Directory for 1845, p. ix.

sufficient labour and manure were bestowed on the trees. However, the absurdity of such an idea has become abundantly obvious of late years. While the nutmeg brought 10 dollars and upwards per 1000 nuts in the market, the return was sufficient to yield a profit to the grower even on the most expensive scale of cultivation; but since the price has declined to 3 and 4 dollars per 1000, it has been found necessary to retrench the expenditure, and the consequence is that the trees in the poorer description of soils have fallen back, and such soils are now acknowledged only to yield tolerably good crops at an outlay bearing no proportion to the income. Many have therefore been altogether abandoned. The private proprietors number about 170. About 30 acres have been turned into Chinese gardens for the cultivation of vegetables, &c.; there may be nearly 40 acres of inferior paddic land; and the rest is laid out for the growth of spice, cocoanut, betelnut, and fruit trees.

The following is a statement of the cultivation:—

	Bearing.	Not Bearing.	Total.
Nutmegs	5164	12980	18144
Cloves	2098	6948	9046
Cocoanuts	5291	5665	10956
Betelnut	16588	12111	28699
Fruit trees	2134	1611	3745

At the most southerly corner of this district, the Pinang road divides the small village called Dhoby Ghaut; that part which lies on the north of the road belongs to this division, and that on the south to the Panguluship of Tullah Jullutong. Here all the washermen of the settlement locate, and have a temple to their goddess; the Waterfall stream runs through a part of it, and there unites with another called the Ayer Etam stream, forming together the Pinang river—the largest in the settlement. But these more especially belong to the next Panguluship, and will then be more fully noticed.

This district contains a population of about 1,800.

No part of the island, of the same extent, has so many or such good roads. Some bound, others intersect it. The former are the Burmah, Pinang, Macalisters, New Cross and the West Cross roads; the latter are the Cross and Waterfall roads. All these are roads distinct from each other, and measure collectively upwards of eight miles in length. Besides these are several good wide lanes passable for carriages,

The 170 acres reserved by Government are appropriated for a military parade-ground and cantonment for the troops, a military hospital, lunatic asylum, a general hospital, and the gaol.

The Parade is a considerable piece of flat low-lying ground, marshy during wet weather; it is, however, susceptible of much improvement by judicious draining. This could be done without incurring much outlay to Government, and the expense would be far more than recompensed by the advantages that would result, both as regards the salubrity of the place and the additional comfort of the sepoy. It is not here confidently asserted, but it is far more than probable, that exercise on the parade, at certain seasons, must frequently be followed by sickness, which, if the ground were drier, would not be so likely to happen.

The Parade is situated near to the western boundary of the district. Adjoining it, but further west, is the Cantonment or Sepoy Lines. These are attap huts built in rows running parallel, and intersected at right angles by others; deep ditches are cut on each side, so that the place is well drained, which moreover occupies a site somewhat higher than the Parade-ground.

Still more to the west, and nearer to the Mountain range, is the Military Hospital, standing on an open, well-aired, and dry piece of ground. It is a two-story house, and was formerly a private dwelling, but for many years it has been applied to its present purpose. The upper flat, I believe, is only used for the sick, and can afford accommodation for about 50; a part of the under story is reserved for the medical stores, and the rest forms the residence of the house apothecary.

The present or new Lunatic Asylum is in form of a quadrangle, situated on the east side of the Parade-ground, erected two or three years ago, and is, I understand, a great improvement on the old one, both as regards construction and management. One or more beautiful large arseena trees growing within its area afford an admirable shade to the premises, and also to such of the inmates as are deemed fit and permitted to take exercise in the open air. I believe there are distinct sets of apartments at some distance from each other, so as to admit of some classification in the treatment. Attention has also been paid in constructing each room to secure a free and fresh supply of air, while, at the same time, the door can be closed and the patients kept perfectly secluded. The old building was a series of cells having high mud walls, and when the doors were shut, only imperfectly ventilated by openings in the roof. The furniture consisted of a mere platform of bamboos at one side, raised a few feet from the ground, which was all that was furnished for the inmates to rest and sleep upon; altogether many modern dog-kennels have a much more comfortable appearance than they had. It is nothing wonderful, then, if the poor patients seldom improved under such treatment; a few days' confinement in such a situation would be sufficient of itself to drive most men mad.

About one hundred yards east of the last, is the General Hospital, a good, plain, substantial stone building of two flats. I have not been within its walls for nearly three years, and since that time, I understand, it also has undergone very great improvement in management, &c. However, the lower flat then consisted of one long apartment, having a file of beds on one side, and a platform of wood, raised about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches from the ground, on the other, and had room for the accommodation of 28 patients. The floor beneath the beds, and the pathway between them and the platform, were chunamed; but the chunam was damp and uncomfortable. The upper flat was divided into four large rooms; but, at that time, only one of these was occupied as a dispensary; the rest were left empty, and, as I was informed, were never used unless the large ward below was filled. Both flats are constructed so as to admit of a free circulation of air. It seemed rather singular that the damp under apartment should be preferred to the upper ones, for the accommodation of the sick. It appears this hospital is intended only for

persons suffering from acute complaints; thus it becomes a General Hospital merely in name, and one actually so is still a desideratum in the settlement. Adjoining this, but separated from it by a stone wall, is the Leper Hospital, occupying a swampy piece of ground, and consisting of a series of wood and attap huts. It can accommodate 20 patients, and is intended for the reception of persons afflicted with Elephantiasis Græcorum, which is here still termed Lepra. Some of the inmates of this hospital had, indeed, a very loathsome appearance at the time I saw them, perhaps three years ago. The disease was then seen in all its stages. Some were merely suffering from its first attacks, and exhibited indurated swellings at the extremities of the toes and fingers; others presented these in various states of ulceration, gradually destroying and consuming the parts; others, again, in a more advanced stage, had entirely lost these members, and displayed a shapeless stump, ulcerated too, and about to follow the same fate. The disease sometimes makes its principal attacks upon the nose, ears and other parts of the face, and, at first, declares itself in the form of tubercles. These, by and bye, become open ulcers, which eat away the soft parts, and then the disease settles in the bones which are also piece by piece destroyed, and leave the person horribly deformed. Many of the patients had only a part, and others scarcely any vestige of the nose remaining, and the whole features of some were entirely obliterated; yet, it was curious to observe how much they apparently enjoyed looking at a mirror, which several were remarked to do for more than half an hour together.

H. M. Gaol stands about a quarter of a mile to the eastward of the Hospital, on a dry, airy site, and seems a substantial building. In April 1844, a presentment to the Court by the Grand Jury "recommended a more distinct separation of the debtor and criminal prisoners, especially as regards the outhouses, which are used in common, and where they constantly meet and converse together." This defect in the arrangement, I understand, still exists; but, I believe, in other respects the gaol is considered efficient.

Beyond the Military Hospital, on the west side of Waterfall road, close to the bottom of the mountains, there are the remains of a reservoir, which was many years ago erected at a very great expense, and intended to supply the town and harbour with water from Waterfall river. But, from error in the construction, the project failed, after costing a large sum of money. The harbour is now supplied with water from the same river by another course, which will hereafter be noticed. On the south of the Military Hospital is a spice plantation of about 20 acres in extent. This was sold by Government about ten years ago, and was some time previously to that the Company's Botanical Garden, under the superintendence of Dr. Roxburgh. At that time it possessed a great variety of plants, but these have all died or been removed.

These are the only buildings in this district belonging to Government, but there are others which require notice.

The Poor-house, supported by the funds of the Anti-Mendicity Society, situated near to the General Hospital, is a square stone building

capable of containing upwards of 100 people, intended as an asylum for the poor and destitute, where, besides being housed, they are comfortably clothed and fed. It was opened about six years ago, and has been of great benefit. The daily average of its inmates has generally been above 60. It is a circumstance to be regretted that the Mahomedans of this settlement have not yet learned to appreciate the advantages of such an asylum, and consequently it has not yet been of so much general use as it may at some future period yet become; nor has it received the support from that class which it deserves. Of the native classes the Chinese alone have had the sense to acknowledge its usefulness; and whilst the institution has thus been of greater benefit to their poor than to the poor of any other class, they have not been backward in lending the Society their support.

About half a mile east of the Gaol, on the north side of the Pinang road, and east side of the New Cross road, is a cenotaph erected by the inhabitants to the memory of the late David Brown, Esq. of Glugore. It stands nearly on the centre of a piece of ground of about 14 acres, reserved for the purpose. Mr. Brown, during a twenty-five years' residence in this island, prosecuted with great success the two professions of merchant and planter, but it was in the latter he chiefly distinguished himself. When the price of pepper fell, and would no longer yield a profit after paying the expense of cultivation, he began to turn his attention particularly to the growth of the nutmeg and clove. All attempts to naturalise these spices to this climate and soil had hitherto failed. It had been undertaken and long persevered in by Government, as well as by numerous private speculators, and, after much money had been uselessly expended, it was abandoned as a thing altogether hopeless. In the face of all these failures, against the advice of friends, and while the voice of the planters was against the success of the project, he alone stood sanguine and remained unshaken in the resolution he had formed to cultivate them on an extensive scale. He cleared immense tracts of jungle, and, holding at defiance the most discouraging circumstances that incessantly presented themselves, he undauntedly persevered and successfully carried through his design, and fully established, what he alone foresaw, the capabilities of the island for that cultivation. This was not done, however, without the sacrifice of an immense outlay, and just when the trees began to yield a return in produce he was carried off by death. He left ample evidence behind him, in the extensive plantations he had formed, that these spices could be successfully produced—he had pointed out the proper system to be followed in the cultivation, and since his day they have become the staple production of the place. The quality of the spice—whether the clove, the nutmeg, or its mace—is now considered superior to any brought to the London or any other market, and commands a better price. But, to return from this digression, the cenotaph was erected to his memory by the inhabitants not so much on account of his having been the first to point out the way to grow the spice, as to record their sense of the many services he had rendered to the public of Pinang; the zeal, spirit, and ability he

displayed on all occasions in behalf of the island; and the unwearied efforts he made to protect the settlement when its interests were threatened.*

Ayer Trujan.—The last of the districts of this Panguluship. It embraces a large extent of forest and hill, but comprises within its area only a very small part of the plain. It is situated west of the last division, and is separated from it by the West Cross road, which forms the eastern boundary of this district. It is somewhat difficult to describe its other boundaries; but these may be marked out by a line running from Waterfall Valley Hill across the mountains, round the western and Great Hill, down the valley between the latter and the Highlands of Scotland to the Waterfall, and from thence along the river of the same name to near the West Cross road. It is difficult to estimate the area of the district, which is moreover very partially cultivated. There is no great variety of soil. It is pretty generally a reddish clay mixed with gravel; the former is so adhesive, that it can be with difficulty worked for agricultural purposes. Such a soil is ill adapted for the production of the nutmeg and clove, particularly the former. Some are of opinion that the soils of this district are fitted for the growth of the coffee plant; and a few hundred trees growing on Government Hill certainly do look very well.

The following is a statement of the trees planted out; but those in the valley between the Great Hill and the Highlands formerly referred to are not included, because no assessment returns of these have yet been made.

	Bearing.	Not bearing.	Total.
Nutmegs	2800	3000	5800
Cloves	2000	3000	5000
Cocoanuts	300	200	500
Betelnut	30000	2000	32000
Fruit trees	1700	300	2050

The population is estimated at 200.

The largest waterfall in the settlement is in this district, and is called the Ayer Rajah Waterfall, or sometimes merely, *par excellence*, the Waterfall. It is formed from the rain collected by the opposing faces of the Great Hill and the Highlands of Scotland, accumulated into a stream running down the valley between them, and from smaller streams from the hills north of these, which all unite some way above the fall and form a considerable body of water. The height from the plain to where the stream first breaks over the rocks may be between four and

* The following is the inscription:—

THIS MONUMENT

Was erected by public subscription by the European and Native Inhabitants of Pinang, to the memory of the late David Brown, Esquire, in testimony of their esteem and approbation of his character, and for his unwearied zeal and usefulness as a member of the community, during the long period of twenty-five years, which he was a resident on the island. His death took place on the 12th September, 1825, in the 49th year of his age, on board the H. C. S. "Windsor Castle," on his passage to Malacca.

five hundred feet, but the fall in its progress downwards is broken at several places. Where it commences, the water turns abruptly over large masses of grey granite, and falls nearly perpendicularly for about two hundred feet; after that there is a succession of smaller falls—then the stream flows in a gradual slope, with, at short distances, sudden slight breaks; and its course throughout, until it reaches the plain, is confined by granite rocks, over the floor of which it bounds with great rapidity. Altogether the fall is very beautiful, and well worth visiting. A good carriage-road, leading from Northam and Pinang roads, and called Waterfall road, runs to the base of the mountains, where it joins the Great Hill road before described. The Waterfall is about half a mile distant from where these two roads unite; a pathway leads from them to it, but of late years the free communication has been cut off by the erection of a large gateway, the doors of which are generally kept closed. This is the act of a private individual who possesses a spice plantation occupying ground on either side of the pathway, and, as that path is reserved for public use in the grant he holds, it is a direct and an unjustifiable infringement on the public freedom. A small valley at the bottom of the fall used to be a common place of resort, in former times, for parties to meet before sunrise to settle foolish disputes *in an honourable manner*, by doing their best to blow each other's brains out. The stream after it reaches the plain is called Waterfall or Ayer Rajah river, which winds its way through this and the former district into the next Panguluship, where, after a short course, it unites with, as observed above, the Ayer Etam river—the junction of the two being then called Pinang river. The harbour is now supplied with water from this stream, conveyed by an aqueduct which commences a few yards within the gateway, and runs through this as well as the fifth and fourth divisions of this Panguluship into the Tanjong Panguluship, and will hereafter, when describing the latter, be noticed at greater length. About a mile from the bottom of the Great Hill there is a flour mill driven by water from the Waterfall river. "

THE PANGULUSHIP OF TULLOH JELUTONG.—This is the second northward. Its boundaries are most circuitous, and very difficult to describe so as to be understood without the assistance of a map. The north boundary separates it from the *Panguluship of Tanjong Pinagree* and the *Panguluship of Tulloh Ayer Rajah*, just described, and may be indicated by a line running from east to west, across the country, commencing with the Soonghy Prangin bridge, which crosses the town ditch, where it opens into the sea, at the south end of the town, and terminating at the Waterfall, noticed under the head *Ayer Trujan*. It is bounded therefore on the north, first, by that small portion of Macalisters road, extending from the Soonghy Prangin bridge, to where it is crossed by the Pinang road at Simpang Lima (where five roads meet); after that, by the Pinang road, to nearly opposite the Gaol, then for a very short way by Waterfall road, and afterwards by Waterfall river, to the termination of this boundary at the Waterfall. The south boundary is still more crooked, and I will only be followed in my account of it by those who have already a pretty minute know-

ledge of the island. Commencing then at the extreme east, and proceeding westward, this Panguluship is bounded on the south by a line stretching from a spot called Tannah Merah (about a quarter of a mile south of a small rising ground known as Mount Albina), direct west to the police station, called Poko Tampanec, on the Soonghy Cluan road, which then runs for a short way north-west along the road, and then suddenly diverges to the south, along a footpath leading front it, to Bukit Gambier, where, after it has nearly approached the Bukit Gambier cascade or gorge between the hills, it again turns northward, and crosses the valley between Mount Restalrig and Low's Hill, passes over the flank of this part of the East Mountain range, and after descending nearly half-way down the west side of the range, the boundary line turns southerly, and runs in a zigzag direction to the Poko Soosoo, or Great Tree; and here the line takes a due west course, and spends itself in the jungle of the Pentland chain of hills. Nearly as far as the Poko Soosoo, the boundary line separates this Panguluship from the *Panguluship of Soonghy Glugore*; and beyond the Poko Soosoo, it forms the boundary between this Panguluship and that of *Soonghy Cluan*. On the east it is bounded by the sea, having here a sea face of about three miles in length. The boundary on the west runs along the summits of the Pentland chain, and divides it from the *Panguluship of Balih Pulo*, (the top of Low's road is called the Prangin boundary,) and forms the extreme north-west point of this Panguluship. Its greatest length is from north to south, and in this direction may measure from Waterfall bridge to the Poko Soosoo about eight miles; and its extreme width in an opposite direction, extending from the top of Low's road to the Soonghy Prangin bridge, may be rather more than six miles. The area of it may be estimated at 18,000 acres. This Panguluship is subdivided into the following districts, namely: 1. Campong Pulo Pinang; 2. Tulloh Jelutong; 3. Batoo Lanchang Jelutong; 4. Ayer Etam; 5. Pyah Trubong.

1. *Campong Pulo Pinang*.—This is the furthest north of the subdivisions. It is bounded as follows: north, by those portions of Macalister and Pinang roads mentioned as forming part of the north boundary of this Panguluship; south, by the Soonghy Pinang (Pinang river); east, by the sea; and west, by Waterfall river and the Suffolk bridge, which crosses the Pinang river, near where that river is formed by the junction of Ayer, Etam, and Waterfall rivers. Its area may be about 310 acres, the whole of which belongs to private persons, with the exception of six or seven acres reserved by Government for a public pound. The district consists of low-lying land, intersected by sandy permatangs. It has three descriptions of soil. One is mangrove swamp, stretching along the sea-side for upwards of a mile in length, and for a considerable way up the banks of the Pinang river; it is flooded by each tide, and seems of a very incorrigible nature. This swamp embraces about 150 acres, and is in great part a mere waste; a small portion is cultivated with cocoanuts, which are very unhealthy, and will never grow to be of any value. The second is medium paddie land, on the banks of the Pinang river, further inland,

and extending as far up as the western boundary at Suffolk bridge and Waterfall river at Dhoby Ghaut village. This may occupy 45 acres, and is cultivated with paddie. The sandy permatangs form the third kind of soil, of which the remaining part of the district consists, and are cultivated with a variety of plants.

The following is a statement* of the cultivation.

	Bearing.	Not bearing.	Total
Nutmegs	60	321	381
Cocoanuts	2033	„	2033
Betelnut	1033	„	1033
Fruit trees	214	„	214

There is one very fine scree garden, containing about 7000 vines.

The population is estimated at about 1500.

There are no roads of any great extent in this district. Parts of Macalister and Pinang roads have been mentioned as bounding it—three others cross it; the first is the Beach road to Jelutong village, the second is the Simpang Lima road, both of which pass through the mangrove, and being frequently overflowed at high water, are with difficulty kept in decent repair; the third is the Crammat road, as far as the Datu Crammat bridge, which crosses a part of the paddie tract. Several bridges cross the Pinang river (the southern boundary of the district), and there are others on the line of its other boundaries, as the Prangin bridge across the town ditch, and Richmond bridge on the Pinang road. Three of these—the Datu Crammat, Soonghy Pinang and Prangin bridges—have recently been built. The second consists of two arches, which have been very unskillfully constructed; the centre is very high, and the ascent so abrupt that the bridge cannot at the present time be crossed by vehicles without danger. It cost 1500 dollars for raising the new structure upon the old foundation; and since that, 433 dollars have been expended in reducing the ascent; so that the bridge has already cost 1933 dollars, and is still in a great measure a useless fabric. Before it can become at all serviceable, the slope must be much lengthened, so as to diminish its abruptness; and to do this effectually, a sum of probably not less than 1000 dollars will be needed. The two other bridges have been built on a better plan, but still are not equal in model to the Suffolk or St. Andrew's bridge. A comparison of the old and new bridges will not be in favour of the progress the science of building has lately made in Pinang.

* By an oversight, in giving the description of *Sepoy Line and Dhoby Ghaut villages*, in the *Panguluship of Tulloh Ayer Rajah*, two small pieces of ground, amounting together to 16 acres, and containing the following number of trees, were included, which must be deducted, as they properly belong to and have been entered in the calculations for this district.

	Bearing.	Not bearing.	Total
Nutmegs	60	314	374
Cocoanuts	200	„	200
Betelnut	100	„	100
Fruit trees	20	„	20

On the Beach road, near to the Soonghy Pinang bridge, there are three limekilns, which, with another in the district of Tulloh Jelutong, supply the settlement with lime. They are worked by Chinese. The lime is now prepared from sea-shells, collected from the different sand-banks and beaches; formerly it was made from coral rock, brought from Pulo Candee, or Saddle Island: the preference given to the shells is partly on account of their yielding, it is said, a better quality of lime, and partly because the Chinese employed in collecting the coral were sometimes disturbed by pirates. On the Simpang Lima road, leading to Soonghy Pinang bridge, is a brick kiln, the only one in the island besides the one in the Pulo Ticoose district, of the previous Panguluship. The settlement is supplied with bricks chiefly from the brick kilns of Bagan Prye, situated on the banks of the Qualla Prye, in Province Wellesley. On either side of the Beach road—on the mangrove mud on the west, and the mud of the sea-beach on the east—are a number of Malay huts, collected into groups, which communicate with each other, and are approached from the road by a path or bridge common to all, consisting of a series of long narrow planks raised on wooden posts for several feet from the mire. The inhabitants are chiefly fishermen and artificers of wicker-work, such as rattan house mats, nets, and baskets. Prahus of wood and bamboo are constructed here, and sometimes others are brought from the opposite side, to undergo repairs; and the owners find lodging in one or other of the huts till these are completed. But although a great number of the huts form thus the dwellings of shops and persons seeking a respectable calling, still not a few are places of bad fame, where many of the blackguards from town and country are wont to congregate for the purpose of devising means of committing thefts, &c. Quarrels and disturbances often originate here, and the place affords great facilities for escape, both into the mangrove jungle and the sea.

The public pound above alluded to is situated on the south side of Pinang road; it has been established for many years, and is in charge of a Jemadar, on a salary of 8 dollars a month. It is used for impounding all stray cattle, horses, and goats, and those which are seized as trespassers on private gardens, for which a certain fee and charges of feeding are levied on the owners, on their being redeemed; the fines go to the Company's treasury.

*Tulloh Jelutong.**—This district is situated immediately south-west of the last. It is bounded on the north, towards the east by Pinang river, which separates it from the last district, and towards the west by a small part of Ayer Etam river, which divides it from the former Panguluship. On the south—by a line stretching east from a small bridge on the Soonghy Cluan road, near to Che Be's Tomb, across the country to another small bridge, a quarter of a mile south of the Jelutong village, on the Glugore road, and thence by a direct course to the sea; this separates it from the next district, Batoo Lanchang. On the east

* This district derives its name from a tree called Poko Jelutong, at one time found here in great numbers, but now seldom met with.

—the boundary, about a mile and a half long, is formed by the sea. On the west—by the Soonghy Cluan road, which also divides it from the Batoo Lanchang district. The area may be estimated to contain about 1200 acres. The general character of the soil is inferior, but the whole district is cultivated, with the exception of two very inferior pieces used for grazing ground, and about 80 acres of mangrove jungle lying waste, on the southern bank of the Pinang river, corresponding with that on its northern bank in the former district. It may be divided like the former, into three kinds: 1st, the mangrove, stretching from the sea up the banks of the river, flooded by every tide, and forming therefore an unwholesome fresh and salt water marsh of 80 acres, which, when united to that of the previous district, amounts to 230 acres in extent;—2nd, inferior paddie land; of this there is about 100 acres, which commences at the south-west extremity, and runs through the centre of the district, first northerly, but as it approaches the Datu Grammat bridge, it turns easterly, and there is continued by the paddie land of Campong Pulo Pinang, on the opposite bank of the river, in a course direct east; this is nearly all cultivated with paddie—a small part has been planted out with spice trees;—3d, sandy permatangs on both sides of the paddie fields, and sandy plains, of considerable extent, raised only a few feet above the lower-lying land, occupy nearly all the rest of this district. The plains here have on the whole a more sandy character, and therefore a poorer description of soil, than is to be found in any other part of the island; but a great part of these has nevertheless been turned into spice gardens, which generally are not likely to become profitable speculations, as long as the prices of produce are as low as they at present are. The soil is better adapted for the cultivation of the cocoanut, and this seems the avowed opinion of all, as that tree now abounds over every other production. There are a considerable number of fruit trees, and growing under the shade of these—near the village of Jelutong—there are several thousand coffee plants, all of which appear healthy and yield a fair produce. There is a fourth kind of soil met with, but of inconsiderable extent—it is a reddish clay, mixed with a large proportion of sand, found on a raised surface, on the banks of the Ayer Etam river; the spice trees on it look much better, and may turn out well. The seree vine is grown in great abundance, and the supplies for George Town are chiefly obtained here. The seree gardens are greatest in number and extent on the west side of the road leading to Glugore, between the Soonghy Pinang bridge and Jelutong village. Altogether there may be about 40 acres under this cultivation, on which there may be 100,000 seree vines.

This district is divided among 115 landholders.*

The following is estimated to be the cultivation:—

	Bearing.	Not bearing.	Total.
Nutmegs	5750	6574	11724
Cloves	225	300	525
Cocoanuts	10457	2776	13233

* The writer omitted to mention in the account given of the last district, that it contained 26 proprietors.

	Bearing.	Not bearing.	Total.
Betelnut	7070	900	7970
Fruit trees	2589	200	2789
Coffee trees	—	—	10000
Sereë vines	—	—	100000

The Boonga Malor, a favourite Malay flower, is cultivated to a considerable extent, and is an article of trade which occupies the attention and is in the hands of the Malay ladies.

The population of the district may be about 1800.*

The roads which crossed the last district are continued through this one; but besides these there are others, and altogether the length of road is of greater extent than in the former. A small part of the Pinang road, extending from Suffolk bridge to where the Soonghy Cluan road joins it, runs through the district, and this, like all the other parts of that road, is in excellent repair. The Soonghy Cluan road, which bounds it on the west, is in tolerably fair order, but there is great room for improvement in the condition of the wooden bridges at its southern extremity. The Crammat road is the most westerly of those continued from Campong Pulo Pinang district; it begins at the Datu Crammat bridge, and terminates at Jelutong village,—immediately to be noticed. The Simpang Lima and the Beach roads join at the Soonghy Pinang bridge, and the road continued from it through this district to the above village is called the Jelutong road; at the village this joins the Crammat road, and then becomes the Soonghy Glugore road; and there a cross road unites them with the Soonghy Cluan road. The Jelutong road is the usual way of communication between the southern districts, the town and the harbour, and therefore is more traversed than any other road in the settlement; it is, nevertheless, kept in worse repair than perhaps any other in the island, and during heavy rains and high tides it is impassable—in such a condition it generally exists for two months of the year. This state must continue until embankments are made to protect it from inundations on the one side from the sea, and on the other from the Soonghy Pinang river. These might be constructed at some expense, but without much difficulty, in this district; perhaps, a little more skill might be required for embanking the previous district. The embankments required for the river would be only simple dykes, having a broad base with sloping sides, more especially that side towards the water, composed of the clayey mud, consolidated by treading, and confined by piles; and the bank thus made, protected by additional piles driven into the river at the points where the current would strike with greatest force against the banks. Those for the sea would need to be more substantial, to resist the greater force of the waves. The bank might be made with stones embedded in clay, having a very gradual slope, and the exposed surface made of solid masonry, firmly joined with good mortar, and polished, so as to leave no points for the returning waves to catch upon: this

* An error was committed in printing the estimate of the population of Campong Pulo Pinang.—It ought to have been stated at 1000.

should be protected by a series of rows of piles rising one above the other, at a distance of about two feet between the rows; and if these were filled with some of the branches of the mangrove jungle, they would serve to retain any solid materials brought by each tide, and thus strengthen the bank. The road could then be kept in good repair, at an expense not greater than that required for the roads in other parts of the island; the mangrove jungle might be turned to profitable account, instead of being, as at present, the den of thieves, and an unwholesome waste.

Jelutong village consists of a series of native huts and houses, inhabited chiefly by Chinese and Malays. It was originally settled by four principal Malays, named, Nacoda Ketchee from Quedah; Maggat Maharaja, from Menankabau; Nacoda Saboot, from Tanah Puteh, (two last places in Sumatra); and Nacoda Ryan, from Macassar. They all had a numerous progeny, and their children intermarrying, a pretty large bazaar and village soon became established. In the course of time, other Malays settled, and afterward some Chinese, who purchased small tracts of lands from the original clearers, and made cocoanut plantations, from the fruit of which large quantities of oil are now annually manufactured. Extensive piggeries have also been for some time erected; the refuse of the cocoanuts after the oil has been extracted supplies food for the hogs, and the town is principally furnished with pork from this village. It is now one of the most populous and flourishing villages in the settlement. I would fail in my notice, if I omitted to mention, the canine species are here exceedingly numerous, and most troublesome to passengers. It is scarcely possible to pass, without being beset with 20 or 30 half-starved yelping curs, which have neither music in their voice, nor beauty in their form. Dog-flesh is well known to form an article of food with the Chinese; the Macao-Chinese are especially fond of it, and no dish is relished by them more than that made from a fat dog. There is a particular species called the *chowchow* dog, which is the only kind valued for its meat. The dogs of this breed have black tongues, and long hair—the altogether black or white ones are preferred. The Chinese of the Bali Pulo district feed dogs for the purpose, which they first castrate so as to produce in them a disposition to obesity, and by this means and good living they succeed wonderfully in producing dogs as fat as, and having much the appearance of pigs. They form a great contrast to the miserable wretches noticed in this district.

On both sides of the road close to the Soonghy Pinang bridge, is another village, similar in appearance to the one on the opposite side of the same bridge in the last district. This village was originally formed by and peopled through the instrumentality of Nacoda Trang, a Bugis trader, who ventured to this island from Macassar with his family shortly after its occupation. It has invariably been the rendezvous of all Bugis prahus entering the harbour, and many descendants of the original settlers are still located here. Before Singapore was established, it contained a very great number of Bugis; but since that, they have much declined in numbers, and its inhabitants are now chiefly Malays and Jawi Pakans, engaged in various occupations, principally

in the fisheries : it is now the only part of the island in which Bugis are found.

Tuanku Syed Hussain, who was a very old Malayan settler, and afterwards acquired great wealth here as a merchant, amounting to upwards of five lacs of dollars, in addition to extensive landed property in houses, godowns, &c., purchased a piece of ground situated on the bank of the river, between Suffolk and Datu Crammat bridges, of about two orlongs, and erected a brick building on it for the interment of his relations and immediate friends. His younger brother and others are buried within this building, and several graves are visible around its precincts. Syed Hussain himself died about twenty-two years ago, and was interred in a burial-place, formed by him in town, adjoining the Malayan Mosque, a substantial building erected entirely at his own expense, which will come to be noticed hereafter. All his children who died subsequently are also interred in the same place.—Shortly after the demise of the Tuanku, his immense property was divided, according to the Mahomedan law, amongst his children; but it is singular that scarcely a year elapsed before his eldest son followed him to the grave, and some months thereafter nearly all the rest of his children; and now only two survive, without a vestige remaining of the immense wealth he bequeathed to them.

On the Crammat road, about 100 yards beyond the Datu Crammat bridge, on a slightly-raised piece of sandy ground, is a Mahomedan burial-ground. It was cleared by a person, as tradition goes, about 140 years ago: what this person's real name was does not appear, but he was known as Datu Crammat.* In 1795, when a general meaurement of the lands took place (nine years after occupation), a person named Maharaja Steea was in possession as being a relation of the Datu Crammat by descent, and many persons were already buried there. It measures about thirteen orlongs altogether.

On the north of the cross road uniting the Soonghy Cluan with the other roads at the Jelutong village, there is a piece of land of about fourteen orlongs in extent, now lying waste, which was purchased from a Malay some time in the year 1818, and occupied as the Local Corps Lines until 1827, when Madras troops having arrived to garrison the settlement, the corps was disbanded and sent back to Bengal, where they were recruited.

On the Soonghy Cluan road there is a Siamese temple. The ground on which it stands was originally owned by a woman named Nonia Nankoo, who, on her death, bequeathed it to the Siamese community for charitable and religious purposes.

The sand for building and for repairing the roads is chiefly obtained from the bed of the Pinang river, at the Datu Crammat and Suffolk bridges.

(To be continued.)

* Old Saint.

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS AT THE PORT OF ST. JOHN'S, CANADA EAST.

A STATEMENT of Goods imported at the Port of St. John's, in the Quarter ending 5th July, 1845.

ARTICLES IMPORTED.						QUANTITY OR VALUE.
Cows and Heifers	..	..	..	..	..	3
Calves	..	..	..	..	..	1
Horses, Mares, and Geldings	..	..	..	..	..	16
Bulls	..	..	..	..	..	1
Anchovies and Sardines, preserved	..	..	..	..	..	13s. 2d.
Berries, Nuts, and Vegetables, used in dyeing	..	..	..	..	..	£150 7s. 7d.
Biscuit and Crackers	..	..	..	..	..	£283 15s. 5d.
Books	..	..	..	..	..	£852 3s. 5d.
Burr Stones, unwrought	..	..	..	..	..	359
Candles, Sperm	..	..	..	..	..	2905 lbs.
Do. Tallow	..	..	..	..	..	1152 lbs.
Carriages and Vehicles	..	..	..	..	..	25
Coals	..	..	..	..	..	50 tons.
Cocoa	..	..	..	..	..	5 cwt. 2 qrs. 16 lbs.
Chocolate	..	..	..	..	..	107 lbs.
Coffee, Green	..	..	..	..	..	1566 cwt. 3 qrs. 20 lbs.
Do. Roasted	..	..	..	..	..	59 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lbs.
Clocks and Watches	..	..	..	..	..	£1495 18s.
Coin and Bullion	..	..	..	..	..	£44388 10s.
Cordage	..	..	..	..	..	114 cwt. 2 qrs. 17 lbs.
Corks	..	..	..	..	..	10966 gross.
Cotton Manufactures	..	..	..	..	..	£3565 3s. 7d.
Cotton Wool	..	..	..	..	..	£505 0s. 10d.
Drugs	..	..	..	..	..	£1004 13s. 11d.
Extracts, Essences, and Perfumery	..	..	..	..	..	£91 10s. 4d.
Fish, fresh, not described	..	..	..	..	..	5s.
Oysters, Lobsters, and Turtles	..	..	..	..	..	£85 0s. 1d.
Fish, salted or dried	..	..	..	..	..	206 cwt. 2 qrs. 8 lbs.
Do. pickled	..	..	..	..	..	1½ bbl.
Flour, Wheat	..	..	..	..	..	109 do.
Almonds	..	..	..	..	..	14212 lbs.
Apples	..	..	..	..	..	2032½ bushels.
Do. dried	..	..	..	..	..	240½ do.
Currants	..	..	..	..	..	92 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs.
Figs	..	..	..	..	..	231 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lbs.
Nuts	..	..	..	..	..	20985 lbs.
Prunes	..	..	..	..	..	9329 lbs.
Raisins, in boxes	..	..	..	..	..	16096 do.
Do. otherwise than in boxes	..	..	..	..	..	24534 do.
Fruit, unenumerated	..	..	..	..	..	£1489 1s. 9d.
Fur, Skins or Peltries, undressed	..	..	..	..	..	£139 3s. 4d.
Glass Manufactures	..	..	..	..	..	£1995 3s. 8d.
Beans	..	..	..	..	..	3 bushels.
Meal	..	..	..	..	..	24½ barrels.
Wheat	..	..	..	..	..	14 bushels.
Bran	..	..	..	..	..	41 cwt.
Gums and Resins	..	..	..	..	..	£1 6s. 3d.
Hardware	..	..	..	..	..	£4409 17s. 10d.

ARTICLES IMPORTED.						QUANTITY AND VALUE.
Hemp	..	..	..	..	..	168 cwt. 13 lbs.
Hides, Raw	..	..	..	..	..	34587
India Rubber Boots and Shoes	..	..	..	..	..	1545 pairs.
Goat Skins, dressed	..	..	..	..	..	39 9-12 dozens.
Lamb and Sheep Skins, dressed	..	..	..	..	..	365 11-12 do.
Calf Skins	do.	..	..	..	..	1355 lbs.
Kips do	do.	..	..	..	..	588 do.
Harness Leather	..	..	..	..	..	1819 do.
Upper do.	..	..	..	..	..	11806 do.
Sole do.	..	..	..	..	..	11214 do.
Leather, cut into shapes, 5 lbs.	Do. not described,	£265				
Women's Boots and Shoes of Leather	..	..	..	..	..	48 10-12 doz. pairs.
Women's Boots and Shoes of Jean, Kid, or Moreen	..	..	..	..	..	19 10-12 do.
Women's Shoes of Satin	..	..	..	..	..	4 pairs
Girls' Boots and Shoes under 7 inches in length, of						
Leather	..	..	..	..	..	11½ doz. pairs.
Girls' Boots and Shoes of Jean or other stuff	..	..	..	..	..	7 2-12 do.
Men's Boots of Leather	..	..	..	..	..	148 pairs.
Men's Shoes do.	..	..	..	..	..	128 do.
Boys' Boots under 8 inches	..	..	..	..	..	16 do.
Leather Manufactures, not described	..	..	..	..	..	£736 9s. 5d.
Linen Manufactures	..	..	..	..	..	£22 13s. 6d.
Cider	..	..	..	..	..	8419 gallons.
Vinegar	..	..	..	..	..	119 do.
Maccaroni and Vermicelli	..	..	..	..	..	6304 lbs.
Machinery	..	..	..	..	..	£1106 14s. 7d.
Mahogany and Hardwood, unmanuf., for furniture	..	..	..	..	..	£549 19s. 7d.
Medicines	..	..	..	..	..	£519 9s.
Molasses	..	..	..	..	..	1448 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lbs.
Oakum	..	..	..	..	..	£1 3s. 4d.
Olive Oil in jars and bottles, 228½ gallons.	Lard Oil, 62 do.					
Vegetable, Volatile, Chemical, and Essential Oils	..	..	..	..	..	£376 14s. 10d.
Palm Oil, £252 7s. 9d.	Fish Oil, 6188 gallons.					
Paper Manufactures other than Books & Playing Cards	£410 6s. 11d.					
Pickles and Sauces	..	..	..	..	..	£21 6s. 3d.
Playing Cards	..	..	..	..	..	936 packs.
Potatoes	..	..	..	..	..	43 bushels.
Butter	..	..	..	..	..	10 cwt.
Cheese	..	..	..	..	..	6 cwt. 2 qrs. 10 lbs.
Meats, salted or cured	..	..	..	..	..	12 cwt. 3 qrs. 20 lbs.
Rice	..	..	..	..	..	1134 cwt. 2 qrs. 7 lbs.
Rum, not exceeding proof, 282 gallons.	Over proof, 104 do.					
Seeds	..	..	..	..	..	£175 17s. 11d.
Silk Manufactures	..	..	..	..	..	£1383 6s. 2d.
Soap	..	..	..	..	..	66 cwt. 19 lbs.
Soda Ash	..	..	..	..	..	£1 19s. 4d.
Cassia	..	..	..	..	..	20 lbs.
Nutmegs	..	..	..	..	..	10 do.
Pimento	..	..	..	..	..	12032 lbs.
Pepper of all kinds	..	..	..	..	..	6604 do.
Spirits, except rum, not exceeding proof	..	..	..	..	..	69 gallons.
Spirits, do., over proof	..	..	..	..	..	29 do.
Sugar, refined, 78 lbs.	Do. unrefined, 2 cwt. 6 lbs.					
Syrups	..	..	..	..	..	224 gallons.
Tallow	..	..	..	..	..	1035 cwt. 2 lbs.
Tea	..	..	..	..	..	285109 lbs.
Tobacco, unmanufactured	..	..	..	..	..	121028 do.
Do. manufactured	..	..	..	..	..	616705 do.
Segars, 1417 lbs.	Snuff, 226 do.					
Trees and Plants	..	..	..	..	..	£228 10s. 10d.

THE EMIGRANT: A TALE OF AUSTRALIA.

BY W. H. LEIGH, ESQ.

AUTHOR OF "RECONNOITRING VOYAGES AND TRAVELS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA, CAPE
OF GOOD HOPE, ETC.;"

H. V. P. OF THE AFRICAN INSTITUTION OF PARIS, ETC. ETC.

CHAPTER X.

"The orb of day
 In Southern climes o'er ocean's waveless field
 Sinks, sweetly smiling; not the faintest breath
 Steals o'er th' unruffled deep: the clouds of eve
 Reflect unmoved the lingering beam of day,
 And Vesper's image on the Western main
 Is beautifully still."---QUEEN MAB.

"How beautiful indeed are the clouds of a tropical clime, ever varying, flashing, wonderful! Gorgeously the banners of vapour float over the bosom of the sleepy sea—and morning comes, and with it such a flood of light gilding, dazzling the eye of the stranger, who finds, by the magnificent kaleidoscope of the heavens, that indeed he is in the land of the sun. The very sea has changed its robe of blue, and mocks the sky in the varied glories that it assumes. Now does it heave its heavy breast; slowly and solemnly, one mighty wave chaseth another, over fields of purple, of orange, of crimson, of ebony, till in the distance the glittering silver line of day lies twinkling in intolerable radiance as a fringe to the dazzling shroud that, for a moment, hides the coming of the mighty king of day. Then all is one flood—one beam of overwhelming gold; and the boneta and the finny tribe, who hail the approach of morn, gambol their burnished bodies in the light. Bounding now with gossamer wings, glad, careless, and free, in flocks hurry over the ripple caused by the dashing ship, the bright little beings of the sun, the flying-fish; and the chameleon-like dolphin is ever and anon exposing his charms to the intruder of the waste, that to him is without a bound. All is life within that vast expanse of sea; but solitarily pursues her way the lonely bark: not a living thing that acknowledgeth the shore is around her; her march is over the unfathomable gulf—she is a being charged with life, a solitary spot inhabited by those who have no sympathy with the strange animals that are gambolling around them—whose home is on a gaping grave, and whose safety—whose life—depends entirely upon the wind, and her fickle sister, the sleeping lion, upon whose mane they dare to play, and within whose jaws they dare to call their home. Such is man; he beards the very tempest—in the whirl, the crash of elements, his weak voice is heard triumphant! and the storm that hurls the daring seabird from the sky, he leads a captive; and his eye is turned upon the

reddening glare of the angry heavens—he bares his head to the bursting of the fearful peal, and he gazes with a calm eye upon the turbulence that is raging around him—the only living thing on earth at peace in the dreadful war of Heaven !”

“ I have heard your rhapsody, Mr. Blair,” said Mr. Rennie as he familiarly tapped that gentleman upon the shoulder,—“ I have heard it all through : doubtless you expected to harangue but those unhappy hens in the coop ? Well, I argue with you, it is glorious to behold the scenes that every hour has in store for us. As poor Turkey often says, ‘ it’s a beautiful world !’ Look, my friend, at those albigores ; with what annoying speed they dart around the prow of the vessel ! We cannot be sailing at a less speed than nine knots an hour, and yet see how rapidly they wheel and sport, and turn and caper—now aloft, then going like an arrow through the waves. How beautiful ! and what a treat it is to behold even a living thing to relieve the interminable watery wilderness, that is so almost inanimate around !”

“ True, Rennie ; but there are many beauties to contemplate—many rare and curious things are here that those who journey not beyond their native Isle can have but a faint conception of. For instance, *there* is the Cape pigeon—there he flies, dipping his variegated wings into the wave, as he captures some unwary fry ; there he flies—a thousand long miles have his dappled pinions borne him from the shore ; his home is indeed upon the waters—his resting-place is the hollow and the brow of the ever-restless sea. He seems alone in his occupation, all-absorbed in the search of his morning meal. But no ! I descry far in the distance his little mate ; gay and gladsome is her bosom—no doubt happy in the companion who shares with her the tempest and the calm.—And here comes whirling round us, as if to examine what and who we are that dare intrude upon his dominions—here comes, skimming the air with his enormous sails, the huge albatross. Look at him, Rennie !—how he turns his great black eye upon us, and how near us he skims, determined as it were to ascertain the very name of the vessel and the colour of its inhabitants. Well, he is indeed a magnificent fellow, and I shall take the first opportunity of fishing for him : the Captain tells me they are easily taken with a long line and a pork bait.

After all, to a mind at peace with itself, I have never yet known an instance where satisfaction and contentment may not be extracted from circumstances apparently quite adverse to anything approaching tranquillity. Even in this crowded vessel, the time has slipped hastily away, and nearly one-half of the tedious passage has been passed. Then, again, there will be a great novelty in our visit to the Cape. I certainly shall make the best of my time there, as I am anxious to make a few observations upon the present state of that Colony. Perhaps, Rennie, you may join me in a little expedition of discovery—what say you ?”

“ I shall do so, Blair, with great pleasure. I am of opinion, it is a Colony whose real merits have been very much neglected, and shall be glad to ascertain how far advantageous it would be to a settler, as in the event of not succeeding according to my wishes in Australia, the

chances are that the Cape might induce me to turn my steps toward it. But, as the patient Turkey says, 'we shall see.'"

"May I ask you, Rennie, if you have already purchased land in Australia?"

"Yes, Blair, I have done so—I have purchased to the extent of five hundred acres."

"In what part is it situate?"

"As it is not at present surveyed, I am not prepared to answer that question; but I am led to understand it will be situated on the banks of a river. I have already sent out my son to select it, as you may not be aware, and I have instructed him to choose it as follows:—Firstly, with a moderate growth of timber; secondly (or rather I should have said, firstly), as near a river as may be, if possible on the banks of one); and thirdly, as near the site of the proposed town as he can. I have ordered him, when various lands are surveyed, to forthwith make his selection, and establish himself and party by the erection of a comfortable habitation, so that in the event of our arrival we may at once have a tolerable place of refuge. He has taken out with him for that purpose the frame of a very good roomy house, and I expect to find him comfortably ensconced within it by the time of our arrival."

"Have you any agricultural implements with you, Rennie?"

"Oh yes, I have a very large assortment. I have been at great pains in endeavouring to get the best and most approved—my ploughs are mostly upon the Scotch principle, light and handy—for I am determined, as soon as we are safely landed, to commence operations with some spirit."

"Well, I agree with you, it will be a great satisfaction when one has actually made a beginning. I shall indeed rejoice to see my herds and my flocks, my crops and my garden. I am quite a devotee to a patriarchal life, and cannot tolerate the false refinement and the galling armour one is obliged to wear in the stupid monotony of fashionable society; and I feel myself more than happy when I reflect that the possibility is, we may not be very distant neighbours—for then we can render each other mutual assistance, which, I conceive, will occasionally be in demand."

"I can assure you, Blair, my desire is yours; few things would give myself and family more satisfaction. I presume, Blair, that the young ladies are not altogether pleased at the Australian expedition—what say they?"

"You have mistaken them, Rennie. So far from feeling any regret at leaving the follies of the ball, the morning twaddle, and the senseless tea-parties behind them, I am happy to say their only regret was the dear and tried friends that are occasionally to be found in this motley world—found too often at the very period when necessity demands we must leave them for ever behind. My girls are educated entirely under a mother's care—they have never been under the discipline of a stranger's hand; neither have their young minds been directed into impure channels by associating in public seminaries with those whose dispositions are trifling and worthless, and whose bosoms are too often

found not to be softened by the assembly of a school, but hardened into ridiculous manners, and educated utterly false in their views of the world. How often, Rennie, is the heart of the parent racked with grief, when, after years of expense and anxiety, the tenderly-loved girl of their bosoms, having at length completed her education in the public schools—how often then, sir, has the cruel sting of disappointment been sent deep into their vitals when they have beheld the beautiful idol of their souls, in all the loveliness of youth—at a period when she is to be launched upon the rough world, totally ignorant of its ways, distracted with false ideas, a prey to every petty disappointment—standing alone, as she does, gazing upon life as it really is ; ignorant, totally ignorant, of what constitutes the *real* foundation of happiness—a knowledge of and a readiness to meet the common-place events, the every-day routine, of a bustling, a selfish world.”

“That, Blair,” replied Rennie, “is a philosophy seldom attained by gay young maidens ; but certainly the way you have pursued in keeping them clear of the frivolities of a public school will do much for them, particularly when a mother’s eye is ever upon them ; and, as you observe, a correct knowledge of what the world affords may be, under such circumstances, more efficiently imparted. I am myself no advocate for your finishing schools, your romances, and your love-sick swains, and haunted castles ; they pollute the heart, and too often, instead of sending forth a valuable member of society, we see nothing but a flighty waxwork doll, full of imagination, music and dance, but absolutely *above* the world in which she is destined to move—and so much so in one instance that came to my knowledge in the person of a relation of mine, that she threw herself into a fatal disease by her abstinence, considering it actually derogatory to be seen in the fact of eating ! Now I mention her, I may just finish her history. This lady—the Miss Belinda—in one of her abstinence fits reduced herself to such a passing shade, that medical advice was called in. The doctor recommended change of air. The beautiful girl—for she was an attenuated beauty—was forthwith removed to a respectable farmer’s in the country. There she, like Ophelia, culled the flowers, the pansies and the willow ; she also directed her attention to the sheep—and from the sheep (oh ! tell it not in Gath !) to the gay young shepherd !—Oh, romance ! oh, rocks, brigands, and caves !—and oh, sweet, tuneful, gentle Colin, and thy still gentler lambkins ! Where are you, Colin ? let the groves answer, and the hills echo it—where are you, and where is the mistress of the humble cot, the miserable Belinda ? ”

“So ended her romance, I presume,” said Mr. Blair ; “no doubt she died of a broken heart ? ”

“No, Blair, she lives yet : the husband has been advanced by some secret benevolent individual to the rank of toll-gate keeper ; and the very last time I had occasion to ride through that part of the country, I had the shock to see the unhappy woman washing in a little orchard, by the side of the toll-house ; and she held up a hand, bleeding at the wrist, to me for my toll. I knew it was Belinda, but she knew me not. I hastily threw a crown to a little blue-eyed urchin, who had

thrust forth his curly flaxen head to look at the traveller, this at once surprised the mother, whom I left standing like a statue, straining her large blue eyes at the unaccountable generosity of the stranger. 'Poor thing!' thought I; 'thou who wert once too delicate for the very balmy South to blow upon, art now exposed to the rudeness of every blast; and those long and taper fingers, that have swept the keys whiter than the ivory of thy piano, enchanting all beholders—where are they now? The muslin brocade has fled from that snowy bosom—the plain red kerchief is there now, and the herden apron tight embraces that slender waist, which bends to thy irksome task as a reed that a tempest hath broken. May I see her misery no more! It was a stab, Blair, I did not very readily get over.'

"Does her husband treat her kindly?" inquired Mr. B.

"Of that," continued Rennie, "I know but little. However, *on dit* that he is a kind, harmless clown—extremely uncouth, as a matter of course, being totally without education, except the little that his unhappy wife has taught him. Ignorance in the present age (abounding, as it does, with the means of knowledge) is a *positive crime*; and, in my code of criminal law, I would insert, 'And be it enacted, that on and after the 1st day of January next, all youths who shall be above the age of ten years, and discovered totally unable to read and write, shall be considered at the disposal of Government, and may be draughted into such regiments or ships as may be thought necessary,'—where the schoolmaster might be found at home; and that therein, in consideration of their education, they should be compelled to serve till the age of twenty-one—thus making something, as it were, out of nothing; for, in spite of what men may preach about a little learning being a dangerous thing, I maintain the force of the adage, that 'half a loaf is better than no bread.' Ignorance, being too often the parent of crimes, should be made accountable for her progeny, by the very same law and jury who condemned the trumpeter to death, negativing his plea that he fought not, neither slew he any man—but the Judge advanced the fact, above all *he was the greater criminal*, by being the cause of others fighting."

"I think, Rennie," cried Mr. Blair, as he turned from the mainmast, against which he had been leaning,—“I think you have reason well on your side; but it will be yet some years ere the little lever of the schoolmaster can heave from its low position, to any favourable elevation, the ponderous mass of ignorance that benights the rural districts.”

CHAPTER XI.

"Thou whose spell can raise the dead,
Bid the prophet's form appear---
Samuel, raise thy buried head;
King, behold the phantom seer!"---SAUL.

"ALL the fat's i' the fire! here's something to talk about—now for it! who's to blame?—*there's* a secret, find it out!" Thus violently ejaculated Mr. Turkey, as he hastily bounded upon the quarter-deck. "There, gentlemen," continued he in an agitated tone, addressing

some passengers who were listlessly promenading,—“*there*, my fellow-wanderers—policies of life insurance are at a premium; who brings such to the market? I’m a purchaser at any price.—Misfortunes never come alone—four this morning, and two last night: here’s a list—*écoute!* *Imprimis*—The jars of London pickled cabbage for the use of the would-be scorbutic, friends, turns out to be all brine and parings of leather!—yea, briny as the very wave that washes yon lee scuppers,—and tough! ay, tough as my grandmother’s pocket! Gentlemen, elongate not the visage. No. 2—The water is nearly spent, and what little remains stinks—ay, most foully savours, as Don Quixote said to Sancho—Yes, the Don to the Squire—memory serves—‘Sancho, thou savourest,’—that’s Spanish for *stink*. Notre aqua Thamesiensis est impuris, abominalis,—that’s pure and unadulterated Latin—memory serves. Note the third—The tripe is defunct! last bit in the bucket to-day; so, gentlemen, you will get no more of that delectable viscera for thy abominable viscera—at which you find yourselves in no worse a situation than the illustrious Queen Bess herself, of ale-drinking, herring-eating memory. Hear what one of her poets laureate sung to the Royal ear—beats Southey hollow:—

‘An thou shalt feed from choicest
That ever queen hath seen,
Thou shalt not eat no ttypes,
For they be seldom clean.’

So lament not thy deprivation,
But list, ye landsmen, all to me;
Messmates! hear from brother sailor
In what a pretty *mess* we be.

Yonder pig who is poking his long and mangy snout betwixt those forbidding bars, ate up the last mурhy yesterday!—absolute fact, however dire to tell. Now for another note—The black cook swallowed the last bottle of ale, to his own cheek, this very morning at six A.M.: I took an observation of him through the grating. Now for note the last, but not the least—Miss P. has just decided not to allow the addresses of the gentleman who last evening mistook her cabin for his own!—Now,” cried Turkey, as he caught the form of the Doctor gliding past,—“now, Doctor, I have emptied my budget; what have you to say?”

“I’ll tell you what I have to say—that I would recommend you all taking a good active dose of physic, and take care not to go near the long-boat; for the typhus fever has broke out amongst us, and the ship is so crowded, I must make that my hospital, and throw a sail over it.”

“The typhus fever!” simultaneously exclaimed all; “God preserve us! And to make the long-boat an hospital! Why, already there are four oxen and twenty sheep in it!”

“That does not alter the necessity of the case. I must have the stern-sheets and the bows: and I herewith forbid any and all of you from holding any intercourse with the infected. I am going to tar, smoke, and limewash the interior of all the cabins, and shall be glad of any of you idlers’ assistance.”

This announcement of the Doctor struck the whole band motionless; for he was a man generally of few words, and it was to be feared, in this instance at least, that he had not exaggerated the danger. He was overheard to remark to the Captain, "When a fever breaks out in a crowded vessel like this, its effects are awful. I have known, out of two hundred emigrants, no less than eighty of them carried off by fever ere they reached Sydney: and I can further add, that a friend of mine, a surgeon, lost seventy out of a hundred and twenty; and upon his arrival in Sydney Cove, he was ordered back with his ship-load of the dying to Sydney Heads, where tents were erected on shore for them, and where medical men came down from town to assist them—three of whom, as well as my poor friend, took the fever and died. And furthermore, the mischief does not end here—the ship is infected for years after, and if employed again in the same service, ten chances to one of her escaping the plague, more raging and terrible than before. That, sir, you may not be disposed to imagine I am exceeding the fact, I will relate an incident.

"A vessel called the 'Lady M'Nab' sailed from England to South Australia. The fever overtook them on the Line—it swept off a third of that melancholy crew, and continued to rage with unabated fury till their arrival at the Cape. Here they went to the hospital on shore—those, of course, who could afford it, purchasing better accommodations—remaining there three weeks; and, after purifying the ship, the remnant once more embarked—and once more did the fever resume his throne of skulls. Day after day the mournful bell summoned the unhappy people to the gangway to commit a fellow-mortal to the deep. From the saddening effect which this created upon the minds of the few who remained in health, the dead were thrown overboard in the secret hour of midnight.

"The moving scenes of that dread ship would appear to have ended with her destination. Not so!—six months after that, I was upon the Eastern seas—we were driving before the wind nine knots—when a vessel, which we had as it were all of a sudden observed standing across our bows, hoisted telegraph. As we became able to distinguish the colours, we referred to the code of signals, and there we made out the question 'Have you a doctor on board?' We backed the main-yard as we approached, and hoisted in reply 'Yes.' Up went their flags again—'9078'—'What's that? 9078?'—'We will send our boat immediately for him.' The boat came alongside, and I and one or two curious passengers boarded the bark. It was the 'Lady M'Nab,' on her return voyage from Sydney, and she was *full of fever*! The Captain's young and beautiful wife, whom he had recently married at Sydney, was lying in a hopeless state, and at least a dozen of the crew. The Captain informed me that they had had the vessel fumigated, limed and fresh painted, and yet the lurking seeds of that insidious malady were not destroyed."

"Then, Doctor," inquired the Captain, "would the infection never be destroyed?"

"Why, yes—after a length of time; but that vessel should be forbidden to carry out emigrants on her succeeding voyage. The invi-

they all began to entertain hopes that the high lands of the Cape would in a short period be announced from the mast-head. Preparations had been for some time past in real earnest commenced. The steerage passengers had performed, as if by general consent, "a most glorious wash;" not a morsel of linen the size of one's handkerchief had escaped the universal ablution. The fit seemed not confined to the steerage alone, but it broke out with equal manifestations of violence amidships: universal war to the very suds was declared against the dusty and the stained—not an inch of the spare rigging was left unoccupied by the motley array of blue and brown, and various-coloured things. There they were, fluttering and flying, flapping, curling, twisting, in attitudes never to be performed when inhabited by the living trunk: bloated, headless bodies struck out their tenantless arms at the invisible antagonist, or challenged each other, like knights of yore, to the tilt, and appeared to the speculative observer to be the resurrection of the good old times when

" 'Twas a glorious sight to see
The charge of the Christian chivalry."

Shirt challenged shirt, and jousted together; under-waistcoat challenged pantaloons, and red nightcap flourished his tassel over an ignobler knight of the garter. Thus went on all things, animate and inanimate; all was life and activity.

Various were the bets made at this period, and numerous were the guesses, the hopes, and the suppositions. Little knots were seen in various parts of the "Ocean Queen," in deep and solemn discourse, upon the change in the water—the bit of sea-weed which had been discovered as it floated past—and, above all, some birds flitting under the stern, pronounced by the wise ones as swallows. All wore the aspect of a period soon arriving, when they might stretch their listless legs ashore. Alas for human hopes—the shortsightedness of that arrogant biped man! He noted not that small red spot in the heavens, such as the Prophet saw, "no larger than a man's hand;" but that unnoted speck on the cerulean bosom of the sky was the car upon which rode the monarch of the storm. He came in silence—he rolled above the waves; the very wind crouched before him and was still, and the sea turned pale at his approach. The startled bird, with his wing of might, dashed like a meteor before him, and sounded his cry of alarm, that echoed o'er the else silent waste; the petrel darted around the scarcely-moving bark with unwonted restlessness; and the sails of the vessel, as if unwilling to contest the coming blast, shivered as in agony at his impetuous career.

The voice of the Captain—the answering pipe of the Boatswain—summoned all men to their duty. The deck was crowded with life; and there was hurrying to and fro, and the scarce-audible whisper which one man breathed to his fellow as he turned his eye to the murky canopy that had spread like a magic carpet over his head. One instant more! and the sea rushed with the violence of a cataract over all—howling and boiling,—sweeping all in its course—whipped

up in an instant, as if by an enchanter's wand. All which had been silent as the tomb was now mantling in violence—in overwhelming passion—around. The yell of the affrighted birds, made visibly larger by the lightning's flash—the tremendous flappings of the mighty sails, as they endeavoured to break like an infuriated lion from his lashings—the sidelong and terrific manner in which the vessel tore amid the billows—and, above all, the awful peals of thunder that boomed and rolled around them—were overpowering and bewildering in the extreme. The passengers, driven below by the fury of the breaking sea, that ever and anon swept like a supercharged torrent over the deck, had not only to contend with the tempest that threatened momentarily to engulf them in the yawning chasms that opened around them, but the vessel, driving and rolling as she was, first one gunwale under and then the other, precluded the possibility of any position but absolutely lying at full length; and then their lives and limbs were in imminent danger, amidst the rushing and crashing of trunks, chairs, tables, and every portable article, broken loose from their moorings, and dashing across the cabin in horrible—in appalling confusion.

STATISTICS OF THE CAPE COLONY.

PORT ELIZABETH AND SIMON'S TOWN.

Quarter ended 5th April, 1845.

COLONIAL PRODUCE EXPORTED.

Articles.	Port Elizabeth.			Simon's Town.	
	Per	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Aloes	lbs.	89865	£ 824		
Beef	csk.	120	240		
Butter	lbs.	15722	423		
Feathers (Ostrich) . .	„	148	820		
Gum	„	52407	568		
Hides	No.	16692	8793		
Horns	„	19830	263		
Ivory	lbs.	4552	871		
Skins (Goat and Sheep)	No.	14960	1266		
Tallow	lbs.	69700	1114		
Wool (Sheep)	„	724709	37699		
Other Articles . . . .	..	..	491		
Total Colonial . . . .	..	..	£53372	..	£3
Do. Not Colonial . . . .	..	..	702	..	0
Grand Total . . . .	..	..	£54074	..	£3

Total Value of Imports,—Port Elizabeth
Simon's Town

£51796
3780

TONNAGE.—VESSELS INWARDS.

Port Elizabeth.				Simon's Town.			
BRITISH.		FOREIGN.		BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
13	2353	1	355	1	703	4	689
Coastwise 16	2694	2	544	5	733	..	..
Total . 29	5047	3	899	6	1436	4	689

VESSELS OUTWARDS.

Port Elizabeth.				Simon's Town.			
BRITISH.		FOREIGN.		BRITISH.		FOREIGN.	
No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
11	1977	3	899	1	186	2	458
Coastwise 15	2408	..	..	1	100	..	..
Total . 26	4385	3	899	2	286	2	458

J. H. HECKROODT, Acting 2d Clerk.

EXPORTS.

Quarter ended 5th April, 1845.

	From Cape Town.			From Port Beaufort.	
	Per	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Alocs	lbs.	17920	£200	101826	£1209
Argol	cwt.	280	483	—	—
Bone	tons	26	35	—	—
Beef and Pork	cwt.	923	1342	—	—
Butter	lbs.	17467	541	—	—
Flour and Bran	"	146236	1351	—	—
Feathers (Ostrich)	"	140	949	—	—
Fruit (Dried)	"	39572	551	—	—
Fish (Dried)	"	805328	3575	—	—
(Pickled)	"	14410	87	—	—
Grain	qrs.	430	613	—	—
Hides	No.	3106	2239	329	123
Horns	"	7191	135	1247	12
Ivory	lbs.	1866	337	622	115
Live Stock, viz.:—					
Horses	No.	36	1280	—	—
Horned Cattle	"	49	361	—	—
Mules	"	39	585	—	—
Sheep	"	1000	599	—	—
Skins (Goat and Sheep)	"	73158	2716	9228	608
Tallow and Candles	cwt.	353	833	—	—
Wine	pps.	1736	14483	—	—
Wool	lbs.	328728	16801	143270	7537
Other Articles		—	3141	—	—
Total Colonial Produce			£53237		9604
" Not Colonial			23927		28
Grand Total			£77164		£9632

EXPORTS.

Quarter ended 5th July, 1845.

	Cape Town.			Port Beaufort.	
	Per	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Aloes	lbs.	3388	£30	37311	£432
Argol	cwt.	255	438	—	—
Beef and Pork	„	487	730	—	—
Butter	lbs.	6226	229	—	—
Flour and Bran	„	158514	1098	—	—
Feathers (Ostrich)	„	236	1347	25	159
Fruit (dried)	„	123971	1312	—	—
Fish (dried)	„	457600	2081	—	—
(pickled)	„	6525	33	—	—
Grain	qrs.	954	1370	—	—
Hides	No.	1960	1417	266	93
Horns	„	3470	62	1094	16
Ivory	lbs.	1471	228	110	20
Live Stock, viz. :—					
Horses	No.	67	1795	—	—
Horned Cattle	„	49	378	—	—
Mules	„	—	—	—	—
Sheep	„	502	269	—	—
Skins (Goat and Sheep)	„	63142	3234	7042	438
Tallow and Candles	cwt.	175	473	34	65
Wine	pps.	1063	10321	5	45
Wool	lbs.	140730	7213	146949	7918
Other Articles			28276		—
Total Colonial Produce			62334	•	9186
„ Not Colonial			18425		50
Grand Total			£80759		£9236

TONNAGE.—Quarter ending 5th April, 1845.

CAPE TOWN.	BRITISH SHIPS.		FOREIGN SHIPS.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Inwards	225	78894	19	7004
Outwards	121	46251	18	6115
Coastwise { Inwards	46	5528		
{ Outwards	53	7352		

TONNAGE.—Quarter ending 5th July, 1845.

CAPE TOWN.	BRITISH SHIPS.		FOREIGN SHIPS.	
	No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Inwards	96	29634	12	3202
Outwards	148	47937	15	4893
Coastwise { Inwards	54	6721		
{ Outwards	56	8048	1	215

IMPORTS.

		Quarter ended 5 April, 1845.	Quarter ended 5 July, 1845.
EUROPE.	Great Britain, British Produce and Manufactures	£93342	£87375
	British Possession Produce	126	52
	Foreign Produce and Manufactures	14887	20327
	Total, Great Britain	108355	107754
ASIA.	France	230	4655
	Holland	2222	649
	Portugal	252	
	Hamburgh	20	
	Sweden	1321	
	Denmark	36	
	Madras and Calcutta	5867	4086
	Bombay	312	383
	Ceylon . . . . .	..	46
	Singapore	2199	2878
AFRICA.	China	7070	4535
	Manila	291	23
	Java	12366	2915
	Adelaide	23	6
	Hong Kong	66	
	New South Wales . . . . .	..	146
	Madeira	17	
	Mauritius	3509	1921
	St. Helena	659	86
	Port Natal	749	2240
AMERICA.	Crozetts	1122	
	Angra Pequena	40	
	Ichaboe	4753	273
	Walwich Bay	21	116
	Bourbon	850	..
	Zanzibar	64	..
	Mozambique	961	..
	Ascension . . . . .	..	138
	Mercury Island . . . . .	..	3
	Nova Scotia	173	..
	Pernambuco	2985	4581
	Rio de Janeiro	7185	11978
	United States	1165	5063
	Bahia . . . . .	..	3752
	Whaling	2272	..
Total, Cape Town		167155	
— Port Beaufort		648	
— Mossel Bay		Nil.	
TOTAL		£167803	£158227

PORT ELIZABETH.

Quarter ended 5th July, 1845.

EUROPE.	Great Britain	£33686
ASIA.	Adelaide	50
	Calcutta	18
	Batavia	583
	Manila	11
AFRICA.	Mauritius	1216
	Natal	2
	Quillimaine	60
	Mazeppa Bay	481
AMERICA.	Rio de Janeiro	126
	United States	1916
Total		£38149

EXPORTS.—Colonial Produce.

Quarter ended 5th July, 1845.

Articles.	Per	Quantity.	Value.
Aloes	lbs.	94590	£1156
Beef and Pork	casks.	447	894
Butter	lbs.	27512	819
Feathers (Ostrich)	"	65	332
Grain	"	98881	322
Gum	"	395209	4085
Hides	No.	11434	5666
Horns	"	8127	130
Ivory	lbs.	2723	479
Live Stock, viz. :—			
Sheep	No.	300	123
Skins (Goat and Sheep)	"	28285	2198
Tallow and Candles	cwt.	618	1219
Wool	lbs.	806827	46424
Other Articles . . . . .	..	..	701
Total Colonial			64548
,, Not Colonial			930
Grand Total			£65478

TONNAGE—Quarter ended 5th July, 1845.

PORT ELIZABETH.		BRITISH SHIPS.		FOREIGN SHIPS.	
		No.	Tons.	No.	Tons.
Inwards		13	1593	1	215
Outwards		16	2974	2	430
Coastwise { Inwards		19	3028	2	414
{ Outwards		17	2104		

ON THE MANUFACTURE OF MAPLE SUGAR.

BY THE EDITOR.

THERE are few trees in the American forest of more value than the maple (*Acer saccharinum*). As an ornamental tree, it is exceeded by few; its ashes abound in alkali, and from it a large proportion of the potash of commerce is produced; and its sap furnishes a sugar of the best quality, and in abundance. It likewise affords molasses and an excellent vinegar. In the maple the sugar amounts to five per cent. of the whole sap. There is no tree whose shape and whose foliage is more beautiful, and whose presence indicates a more generous, fertile, and permanent soil, than the rock maple: in various cabinet-work, its timber vies with black walnut and mahogany for durability and beauty; and as an article of fuel its wood equals the solid hickory. The maple is a tree natural to the forests of America, and wherever there has been opportunity for a second growth, this tree attains to a considerable size much sooner than might be imagined. In the course of ten or fifteen years the maple becomes of a size to produce sugar. The trees which have come up since the first clearing, produce sap that yields much more sweet than the original forest maples.

Sugar has become not only an article of luxury, but of utility, to such a degree, that a supply of it constitutes an important article of importation, and is of national consequence. For sugar the world has hitherto relied on the cane, with the exception of some parts of India, where the sugar palm yields it much more cheaply. The sugar cane is, however, a tropical plant, and, of course, its cultivation must of necessity be limited to such hot countries. France, during the wars of Napoleon, shut out from her Indian possessions or deprived of them, commenced making sugar from beets, and it proving unexpectedly successful and profitable, it has extended not only over that empire, but nearly the whole of continental Europe, where it forms an important item in their system of cultivation and profit. The manufacture has been attempted in the United States; but though the facts of the ease and certainty with which the beets may be grown and their great value for stock has been fully ascertained, still little progress in the production of sugar has been made. The introduction of any such object of general culture, the history of the cotton and silk business in America shows, must be gradual, and rather *the result of individual effort, than combined operations*. The whole interior of the northern part of the United States have relied, and still rely, more on their maple woodlands for sugar than on any other source; and as a branch of domestic manufacture and home production, the business is of no little consequence. The time occupied too in the business is very

limited, and occurs at a season when very little of other labour can be done.

Hitherto but comparatively little attention has been bestowed upon this important branch of industry in Canada. The inhabitants of that Province might doubtless manufacture a sufficient quantity of maple sugar to supply the demand or consumption in this article for the whole population of the country. This variety of sugar may be refined, and made as valuable for table use as the finest qualities of West India sugar. On the south shore of Lake Huron, and the islands of that inland sea, there are forests of sugar maple unsurveyed capable of producing a supply for the whole population. The Indians upon those islands have lately turned their attention pretty largely to the manufacture of sugar from the maple; and during the season of 1844, although it was an unfavourable one for this business, many tons were exported from this source. If the Indians could obtain a fair value for their sugar, say seven or eight dollars per 100 lbs., they would extend their operations upon a large scale. Upon these islands alone, we are informed by *The British American Cultivator* of Toronto, there are upwards of a million of full-grown maple trees, capable of yielding each from two and a half to three pounds of excellent sugar per annum; and if proper attention were given to this branch of production in that quarter, we see no reason why a most profitable business could not be carried on. Every farmer who has a grove of sugar maple, should endeavour to manufacture at least sufficient for the consumption of his own family. In most cases 150 trees of medium growth would yield an amount of sap that would make 300 lbs. of sugar, 25 gallons of molasses, and a barrel of vinegar. The labour required to manufacture this amount of sugar, molasses, and vinegar, would scarcely be felt by the well-organised cultivator, as the season for the business is at the close of the winter and opening spring, when no labour can be done upon the land. We venture the opinion, that in proportion to the amount of labour and money expended in the production of maple sugar, it is as capable of yielding as large a return of profits as any other branch of farm labour. It is certainly an object of great national interest to the inhabitants of that Colony, that they should supply their own market with such products as their highly-favoured country is capable of producing. Sugar is an article which will ever find a ready sale at highly-remunerating prices, provided that it be properly manufactured, and brought into market in good condition. It requires a little outlay at first to purchase buckets, cisterns, and boilers, to stock a sugar-bush; but by carefully using the above necessary apparatus, they will last for a very long period. A farmer can supply himself with the suitable materials for performing the sugar business without any cost further than his own labour. The spring is the season of the year that everything should be put in readiness,—even the wood should be chopped and drawn to the spot, so that when the sap commences to run there may be no impediments in the way to hinder the complete success of the business. It is to be hoped that every farmer may resolve to supply his family with a twelvemonth's stock of domestic manufactured sugar; and by

putting this resolve into practice, a great saving in money will not only be effected to the rural classes, but the wealth of the country will be greatly increased. The importation of sugar in Canada may very safely be computed at £40,000 per annum, and the whole of this amount of money could be retained in the country if the people would only look well to the matter. In every great enterprise in which the wealth of the country is to be materially increased, we expect that the intelligent farmers will be first to lead the way; and in the matter before us especially, it is to be expected that they will be the most prominent class of operatives. To ensure the greatest amount of success to these operations, we embrace this opportunity of advancing a few sound and practical directions which may be of use to those of our readers who may engage in this branch of business.

In tapping, the gouge is the best implement that can be used, provided that it is an object to save the timber. It is usual, when using the gouge, to take out a chip about an inch and a half in diameter; but as this system is objectionable where the maple is not abundant, as it subjects the timber to decay, it is a better course to make an incision by holding the gouge obliquely upwards an inch or more in the wood. A spout, or spile, as it is termed, about a foot long, to conduct off the sap, is inserted about two inches below this incision with the same gouge. By this mode of tapping, the wound in the tree is so small that it will be perfectly healed or grown over in two years. A boiler, of thick sheet-iron, made to rest on the top of an arch, by which the sides would be free from heat, and only the bottom exposed, is doubtless a secure and rapid process of evaporation. The sides and ends of the boiler may be made of well-seasoned boards, which will answer the same purpose as if made solely of sheet-iron. When the sap is boiled down into syrup or thin molasses, it should then be taken out of the boiler and strained through a flannel cloth into a tub, where it should settle about twenty-four hours. The clear syrup should be separated from the sediment which will be found in the bottom of the tub. The pure syrup must be boiled down into sugar over a slow fire. A short time, however, before the syrup is brought to a boiling heat, to complete the clarifying process, the whites of five eggs well beaten, about one quart of new milk, and a spoonful of saleratus, should be all well mixed with a sufficient amount of syrup, to make 100 lbs. of sugar. The scum which will rise on the top must be skimmed off. Caution is to be observed in not allowing the syrup to boil until the skimming process is completed. Drained sugar is more valuable than dry; and to secure a good article, the greatest attention must be bestowed in granulating the syrup. The boxes or tubs for draining should be large at the top and small at the bottom.* The bottom of the tubs should be bored full of small holes, to let the molasses drain through. After it has nearly done draining, the sugar may be dissolved, and the process of clarifying, granulating, and draining repeated, which will give as pure a quality of sugar as the best refined West India article.

The greatest objections that are brought up against maple sugar are, that the processes made use of in preparing the sugar for market are

so rude and imperfect that it is too generally acid, and besides charged with salts of the oxide of iron, insomuch that it ordinarily strikes a black colour with tea. These objections may be removed without any comparative difficulty, as it has been proved to demonstration, by the application of one ounce of clear lime-water to a gallon of maple sap, that the acidity will be completely neutralised, and the danger of the syrup adhering to the sides of the boiler totally removed. The acid so peculiar to the maple sugar, when combined with lime in the above proportion, is found to be excessively soluble in alcohol; so much so, that yellow sugar can be rendered white in a few minutes by placing it in an inverted cone, open at the top, with small holes in the bottom, and by pouring on the base of the cone a quantity of alcohol. This should filtrate through until the sugar is white; it should then be dried and redissolved in boiling water, and again evaporated until it becomes dense enough to crystallise. Then pour it into the cones again, and let it harden. By this process a very white sample of sugar may be made, and both the alcohol and acids will be thoroughly dispelled with the vapour.

The process of making maple sugar it will be seen is very simple and easily performed. We give a few varying directions in order to provoke trial. The trees must be of suitable size, and within a convenient distance of the place where the operations of boiling, &c. are to be performed. Tapping the trees to procure the sap, is best done with a half-inch or three-quarter auger, penetrating the wood about two inches. When gathered, the sap should be boiled as early as possible, as the quality of the sugar is in a great degree depending on the newness or freshness of the sap. There is a tendency to acidity in this fluid, which produces a quick effect in preventing the making of sugar; and which, when the sap is obliged to be kept for many hours in the reservoirs, must be counteracted by throwing into them a few quarts of slaked lime. During the time of sugar-making, warm weather, in which the trees will not discharge their sap, sometimes occurs, and the buckets become white and slimy, from the souring of the little sap they contain. In this case, they should be brought to the boiler and washed out carefully with hot water, and a handful of lime to each.

In reducing the sap, the great danger to be apprehended is from burning the liquid after it is made to the consistence of molasses, since, when this is done, it is impossible to convert it into sugar; a tough, black, sticky mass, of little value, being the result. Indeed, constant care and attention is required to produce a first-rate article: for though sugar may be made in almost any way where the sap can be procured, yet unless the strictest neatness is preserved in all the processes, in gathering and boiling the sap, clarifying the syrup, and in converting the syrup to sugar, a dirty inferior article will be made, instead of the beautiful and delicious sweet which the maple, properly treated, is sure to yield.

The quantity of sugar produced in a year varies considerably from the same trees. The cause of this difference is to be found in the depth of snow, continued cold, or a sudden transition from cold to warm, thus

abridging the period of sugar-making. A sharp frost at night, with still, warm days, is the most favourable to the sugar-maker. Perhaps four pounds of sugar from a tree may be a pretty fair average of seasons generally, although we have known the growth to exceed six pounds, and sink as low as three. A man will take care of one hundred trees easily, during the season of making sugar, which usually lasts from about the middle of March into April, perhaps employing him twenty days in the whole. Dr. Jackson, in his Report of the Maine Geological Survey, gives the following instances of the production of sugar in that State :—

	Lbs. of Sugar.
At the Forks of the Kennebec, twelve persons made	3,605
On No. 1, 2d range, one man and boy made	1,000
In Farmington, Mr. Titcomb made ..	1,500
In Moscow, thirty families made	10,500
In Bingham, twenty-five families made	9,000
In Concord, thirty families made.. ..	11,000

A cold and dry winter is followed with a greater yield of sugar from the maple than a season very moist and variable. Trees growing in wet places will yield more sap, but much less sugar from the same quantity, than trees on more elevated and drier ground. The red and white maple will yield sap, but it has much less of the saccharine quality than the rock or sugar maple.

The work begins usually about the first of March. The tree will yield the liquid long before vegetation appears from the bud: frequently the most copious flow is before the snow disappears from the ground. The clear day following a night of freezing is the best time for running sap.

Some persons have a camp in their maple orchards, where large cauldrons are set in which to boil down the sap to the consistency of a thick syrup: others take the liquid to their houses, and there boil down and sugar off.

The process begins by the preparation of spouts and troughs or tubs for the trees: the spouts or tubes are made of elder, or sumac, or pine, sharpened to fit an auger hole of about three-fourths of an inch in diameter. The hole is bored a little upward, at the distance horizontally of five or six inches apart, and about twenty inches from the ground on the south or sunny side of the tree. The trough, cut from white maple, pine, ash, or bass wood, is set directly under the spouts, the points of which are so constructed as completely to fill the hole in the tree, and prevent the loss of the sap at the edges, having a small gimlet or pitch hole in the centre, through which the entire juice discharged from the tree runs, and is all saved in the vessels below. The distance bored into the tree is only about one-half an inch to give the best run of sap. The method of boring is far better for the preservation of the tree than boxing, or cutting a hole with an axe, from the lower edge of which the juice is directed by a spout to the trough or tub prepared to receive it. The tub should be of ash or other wood that will communicate no vicious taste to the liquid or sugar.

The sap is gathered daily from the trees and put in larger tubs for

the purpose of boiling down. This is done by the process of a steady hot fire. The surface of the boiling kettle is from time to time cleansed by a skimner. The liquid is prevented from boiling over by the suspension of a small piece of fat pork at the proper point. Fresh additions of sap are made as the volume boils away. When down to a syrup, the liquor is set away in some earthen or metal vessel till it becomes cool and settled. Again the purest part is drawn off or poured into a kettle until the vessel is two-thirds full. By a brisk and continual fire, the syrup is further reduced in volume to a degree of consistence best taught by a little experience, when it is either put into moulds to become hard as it is cooled, or stirred until it shall be grained into sugar. The right point of time to take it away from the fire may be ascertained by cooling and graining a small quantity. The sediment is strained off and boiled down to make molasses.

The following is from a Massachusetts paper :—

The maple produces the best sugar that we have from any plant. Almost every one admires its taste. It usually sells in this market (Boston) nearly twice as high as other brown sugar. Had care been taken from the first settlement of the country to preserve the sugar maple, and proper attention been given to the cultivation of this tree, so valuable for fuel, timber, and ornament, besides the abundant yield of an admirable saccharine juice, we could now produce in New England sugar enough for our own consumption, and not be dependent on the labour of those who toil and suffer in a tropical sun for this luxury or necessary of life.

But, for want of this friendly admonition,

“ Axeman, spare that tree,”

the sturdy blows were dealt around without mercy or discretion; and the very generation that committed devastation in the first settlements in different sections of our country, generally lived to witness a scarcity of fuel; and means were resorted to for the purchase of sugar, that were far more expensive than would have been its manufacture, under a proper mode of economy in the preservation of the maple, and the production of sugar from its juice.

Those who have trees of the sugar maple, should prepare in season for making sugar. In some sections, wood is no object, and a rude method of boiling is followed; but where fuel is very scarce, a cheap apparatus should be prepared, that will require but little fuel. In some sections, broad pans or kettles have been made of sheet-iron bottoms, and sides of plank or boards, care being taken to allow the fire to come in contact with the iron only. These pans cost but a trifle, and, owing to their large surface, the evaporation is rapid.

Another cheap instruction for boiling with economy is, to make a tight box of plank, some four or five feet square—the width of a wide plank will answer, and then put into it, almost at the bottom, a piece of large copper funnel, say ten or twelve inches at the outer part, and then smaller. This funnel, beginning near one end, should run back nearly to the opposite side, then turn and come out at the opposite end, or at the side near the end, as most convenient, being in only two straight parts, that the soot may be cleared out. Each end should be made tight, with a flange nailed to the box. At the mouth of the large part there should be a door, to reduce the draught; here make the fire, and at the other end have a funnel to carry off the smoke. In this case, there is only sheet copper between the fire and the sap which surrounds the funnel, so that the heat is readily taken up by the liquid, and very little escapes. This is an economical plan for cooking food for stock, steaming timber, &c.

For catching up sap, various kinds of vessels are used. The cheapest are made of white birch, which last one season, or less. Troughs of pine, or

linden or bass wood, may be made for a few cents each, and they will last for a number of years, if inverted in the shade of trees. But these are inconvenient; and, after the first year, they become dirty, and clog the sap. Pails with iron hoops are the best, and, for a number of years, the cheapest. By painting and carefully preserving them, they will cost, for a course of years, about one cent each for a year.

Mr. Alfred Fitch, in the *Genesee Farmer*, says,—

My manner of making sugar is, to have tubs, and all connected with sugar-making, clean and sweet. My next object is, to boil as soon as possible after the sap has run from the trees. In clarifying, I use for 50 lbs. of sugar one pint of skimmed milk, put into the syrup when cold, and place it over a moderate fire until it rises, which should occupy thirty or forty minutes; then skim and boil until it will grain; after which I turn it into a tub, and after two or three weeks bore a hole in the bottom of the tub, and turn on a little cold water, and in a few days the molasses will drain out, and leave the sugar dry, light, and white.

Mr. E. W. Clark, of Oswego, in the *Boston Cultivator* furnishes the following information:—

On Fining Maple Sugar.—The sweet obtained from the maple tree is undoubtedly the purest known; but, from mismanagement in the manufacture of it, it frequently becomes very impure. Its value is lessened, while the expense of making it increases. I am sensible that the method which I shall recommend is not altogether a new one, and that it is more by attending to some apparently minute and trivial circumstances, than to any new plan, that my sugar is so good. Much has been written upon and many useful improvements been made, in that part of the process which relates to tapping the trees, and gathering and evaporating the sap, &c.; but still, if the final operation is not understood, there will be a deficiency in the quality of the sugar. I shall confine myself to that part of the operation which relates to reducing the syrup to sugar, as it is of the first importance. My process is this:—When the syrup is reduced to the consistence of West India molasses, I set it away till it is perfectly cold, and then mix with it the clarifying matter, which is milk or eggs. I prefer eggs to milk, because when heated the whole of it curdles; whereas milk produces only a small portion of curd. The eggs should be thoroughly beaten, and effectually mixed with the syrup while cold. The syrup should then be heated till just before it would boil, when the curd rises, bringing with it every impurity, even the colouring matter, or a great portion of that which it had received from the smoke, kettles, buckets, or reservoirs. The boiling should be checked, and the scum carefully removed, when the syrup should be slowly turned into a thick woollen strainer, and left to run through at its leisure. I would remark, that a great proportion of the sugar that is made in our country is not strained after cleansing. This is an error. If examined in a wine-glass, innumerable minute and almost imperceptible particles of curd will be seen floating in it, which, if not removed, render it liable to burn, and otherwise injure the taste and colour of it.

A flannel strainer does this much better than a linen one. It is, indeed, *indispensable*. As to the quantity of eggs necessary; one pint to a pailful of syrup is amply sufficient, and half as much will do very well. I now put my syrup into another kettle, which has been made perfectly clean and *bright*, when it is placed over a quick but solid fire, and soon rises, but is kept from overflowing by being laded with a long dipper. When it is sufficiently reduced, (I ascertain this by dropping it from the point of a knife, while hot, into one inch of cold water—if done, it will not immediately mix with the water, but lies at the bottom in a round flat drop,) it is taken from the fire, and the foaming allowed to subside. A thick white scum, which is useable, is removed, and the sugar turned into a cask, placed on an inclined platform, and left undisturbed for six weeks or longer, when it should be tapped in the bottom and the molasses drawn off. It will drain perfectly dry in a few days.

The sugar made in this manner is very nearly as white as lump sugar, and beautifully grained. We have always sold ours at the highest price of Muscovadoes; and even when these sugars have sold at eighteen cents, ours found a ready market at twenty. Two hands will sugar off 250lbs. in a day. From the scum taken off in cleansing, I usually make, by diluting and recleansing, one-sixth as much as I had at first, and of an equal quality.

It is not of much consequence as regards the quality of the sugar, whether care be taken to keep the sap clean or not. The points in which the greatest error is committed, are, neglecting to use a flannel strainer, or strain after cleansing—to have the sugaring kettle properly cleaned—and to remove the white scum from the sugar.

An important process of manufacturing maple sugar, which produces a most beautiful article, is thus described in a communication by the gentleman who gained the first premium at the State Fair at Rochester in 1843, to the Committee on Maple Sugar of the New York State Agricultural Society.

GENTLEMEN,—I herewith submit to your inspection 50lbs. of my maple sugar. The following is a statement of the manner of making and clarifying the same:

In the first place, I make my buckets, tubs, and kettles all perfectly clean. I boil the sap in a potash kettle, set in an arch in such a manner that the edge of the kettle is defended all around from the fire. I boil through the day, taking care not to have anything in the kettle that will give colour to the sap, and to keep it well skimmed. At night I leave fire enough under the kettle to boil the sap nearly or quite to syrup by the next morning. I then take it out of the kettle, and strain it through a flannel cloth into a tub, if it is sweet enough; if not, I put it in a cauldron kettle, which I have hung on a pole in such a manner that I can swing it on and off the fire at pleasure, and boil it till it is sweet enough, and then strain it into the tub, and let it stand till the next morning. I then take it and the syrup in the kettle, and put it altogether into the cauldron, and sugar it off. I use, to clarify say 100lbs. of sugar, the whites of five or six eggs well beaten, about one quart of new milk, and a spoonful of saleratus, all well mixed with the syrup before it is scalding hot. I then make a moderate fire directly under the cauldron, until the scum is all raised; then skim it off clean, taking care not to let it boil so as to rise in the kettle before I have done skinning it. I then sugar it off, leaving it so damp that it will drain a little. I let it remain in the kettle until it is well granulated. I then put it into boxes made smallest at the bottom, that will hold from fifty to seventy lbs., having a thin piece of board fitted in, two or three inches above the bottom, which is bored full of small holes, to let the molasses drain through, which I keep drawn off by a tap through the bottom. I put on the top of the sugar, in the box, a clean damp cloth; and over that, a board, well fitted in, so as to exclude the air from the sugar. After it has done or nearly done draining, I dissolve it, and sugar it off again; going through with the same process in clarifying and draining as before.

JOEL WOODWORTH.

The following important communication from Dr. Jackson of Boston, to the editors of the *Boston Cultivator*, will be of much interest to the sections of the country where maple sugar is made.

Messrs. Editors,—I beg leave to communicate, for insertion in your paper, the result of some researches which I have made on the manufacture of maple sugar; having been much interested in promoting this branch of New England industry, and being satisfied that, if pursued with skill, it cannot fail to prove profitable to the people inhabiting inland towns where the sugar maple abounds.

It is well known to you, without doubt, that the northern parts of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and New York, have dense forests of the sugar maple, and that at present only very rude processes are made use of in preparing the sugar for market, so that it is too generally acid and deliquescent,

besides being charged with salts of the oxide of iron, inasmuch that it ordinarily strikes a black colour with tea. To remedy these difficulties was the object of my researches; while, at the same time, I was engaged in ascertaining the true composition of the sap, with a view to the theory of vegetable nutrition.

I received several gallons of freshly-drawn maple sap from Northampton, Warner, and Canterbury, and made analyses of each lot, separating the acids, salts, and the sugar. I also analysed the sap of the yellow and white birch, which do not give any crystallisable sugar, but an astringent molasses.

I shall now communicate to you the process by which I manufactured sugar-maple sap, received from the Shakers of Canterbury, who collected it with care in a clear glass demijohn, and sent it forthwith, so that it came to me without any change of composition, the weather being cold at the time. The evaporation was carried on in glass vessels until the sap was reduced to about one-eighth its original bulk, and then it was treated with a sufficient quantity of clear lime-water to render it neutral, and the evaporation was completed in a shallow porcelain basin. The result was, that a beautiful yellow granular sugar was obtained, from which not a single drop of molasses drained, and it did not deliquesce by exposure to the air. Another lot of the sap, reduced to sugar without lime-water, granulated, but not so well, and was sour to the taste, and deliquesced by exposure, and gave a considerable quantity of molasses.

Having studied the nature of the peculiar acid of the maple, I found that its combinations with lime were excessively soluble in alcohol, so that the yellow sugar first described could be rendered white in a few minutes, by placing it in an inverted cone open at the bottom, and pouring a fresh quantity of alcohol upon it, and allowing it to filtrate through the sugar. The whitened sugar was then taken and redissolved in boiling water and crystallised, by which all the alcoholic flavour was entirely removed, and a perfectly fine crystallised and pure sugar resulted. Now, in the large way, I advise the following method of manufacturing maple sugar. Obtain several large copper or brass kettles, and set them up in a row, either by tripods with iron rings, or by hanging them on a cross bar; clean them well, then collect the sap in buckets, if possible, so that but little rain-water will be mixed with the sap, and take care not to have any dead leaves in it. For every gallon of the maple sap *add one measured ounce* of clear lime-water, pass the sap into the first kettle and evaporate; then, when it is reduced to about one-half, dip it out into the second kettle, and skim it each time; then into the next, and so on, until it has reached the last, where it is reduced to syrup, and then may be thrown into a trough, and granulated by beating it up with an oar.

As soon as the first kettle is nearly empty, pour in a new lot of the sap, and so continue working it forward exactly after the manner of the West India sugar-boilers. The crude sugar may be refined subsequently, or at the time of casting it into the cones made of sheet-iron, well painted with white lead and boiled linseed oil, and thoroughly dried, so that no paint may come off. These cones are to be stopped at first, until the sugar is cold; then remove the stopper and pour on the base of the cone a quantity of strong whiskey, or fourth proof rum. Allow this to filtrate through, until the sugar is white; dry the loaf, and redissolve it in boiling hot water, and evaporate it until it becomes dense enough to crystallise. Now pour it into the cones again, and let it harden. If any colour remains, pour a saturated solution of refined white sugar on the base of the cone, and this syrup will remove all traces of colour from the loaf.

One gallon of pasture maple sap yielded 3,451 grains of pure sugar. One gallon of the juice of the sugar cane yields, on an average, in Jamaica, 7,000 grains of sugar. Hence, it will appear that maple sap is very nearly half as sweet as cane juice; and, since the maple requires no outlay for its cultivation, and the process may be carried on when there is little else to be done, the manufacture of maple sugar is destined to become an important department of rural economy. It is well known, by the Report on the Statistics of the United States, that Vermont ranks next to Louisiana as a sugar state, producing (if I recollect correctly) 6,000,000 of pounds in some seasons, though the business is now carried on in a very rude way, without any apparatus, and with no great chemical skill; so that only a very impure kind of sugar is made, which, on

account of its peculiar flavour, has not found its way into common use, for sweetening tea and coffee. It would appear worth while, then, to improve this manufacture, and to make the maple sugar equal to any now in use. This can be readily accomplished, if the farmers in the back country will study the process of sugar-making, for cane and maple sugar are, when pure, absolutely identical.

It should be remarked, that forest maples do not produce so much sugar as those grown in open fields or in groves, where they have more light, the underbrush being cleared away.

In Farmington, on the Sandy River, in Maine, I have seen a very fine grove of maples, but thirty years old, which produced a large yield of very good sugar. A man and two boys made 1,500lbs. of sugar from the sap of these trees in a single sugar season. The sap was boiled down in potash kettles, which were scoured bright with vinegar and sand. The sugar was of a fine yellow colour, and well crystallised. It was drained of its molasses in casks, with a false bottom perforated with small holes—the cask having a hole bored at the bottom, with a tow plug placed loosely in it, to conduct off the molasses. This method is a good one, but the sap ought to be limed in boiling, as I have described; then it will not attach to the iron or copper boilers. The latter metal must not be used with acid syrup, for copper salts are poisonous.

Those who fear to trust alcohol on their premises, may content themselves with the use of lime-water to neutralise the acid, and clarify the syrup with eggs or skim-milk. Then granulate the raw sugar as usual. To refine it without alcohol, it may be re-melted, cast into cones, drained, and then clayed; or, still better, refined by the displacement of the molasses by means of a saturated solution of loaf-sugar poured on the base of the cone after removal of the plug from its apex. Although this process does not give so white a sugar, I should prefer it to any risk of an improper use of alcohol; and it has the advantage of giving a much better molasses, which will do for family use; whereas the rum and molasses is a vile compound, unfit for any use but distilling or for making vinegar.

Any portion of the above remarks you may deem interesting to the public you are at liberty to publish.

Boston, 1844.

Yours respectfully,
C. T. JACKSON.

There are several towns in the northern sections of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont, that produce more than sufficient sugar for the consumption of their inhabitants. A lot of good sugar trees will average four pounds to the tree, in a favourable season. Many farmers have orchards that will yield five hundred to a thousand pounds of sugar in a year. As this is made at a season interfering very little with the other business of the farm, the sugar that the farmer makes is so much clear gain.

There is, on almost every hill-farm, some place favourable for the growth of a maple orchard—some rocky spots yielding little grass, and impervious for the plough. Such spots may be favourably chosen for the growth of a maple orchard; and whether the increase be used for manufacturing sugar and molasses, or for timber or fuel, the proprietor of the land will find a profit better than money at interest in the growth of this beautiful tree, which will spontaneously propagate itself in many positions.

Next to Louisiana, Vermont is the greatest sugar-producing State in the Union. The amount of maple sugar produced in 1840 was over 2,550 tons, being over $17\frac{3}{4}$ pounds to each inhabitant, allowing a population of 291,948. At five cents a pound, this is worth 255,963 dolrs. 20 cents.

General Chancery Eggleston has the most extensive sugar camp in Ohio, situated at a place named Auburn. His sugar-house is furnished with fixtures and apparatus for manufacturing five hundred pounds of sugar per day. A reservoir, capable of containing sixty or eighty barrels, receives the sap, whence it is drawn into pans, placed over a furnace to be boiled down, and transferred again to a large kettle for "sugaring off." Two thousand seven hundred trees have been tapped this year, though the season has not been a favourable one for making sugar. Some seasons he has made as much as 10,000 pounds. The quantity made by him in one season, three or four years ago, brought 12,500 dolrs.

From a Michigan paper we clip the following extract :—

Many have supposed the maple sugar inferior to the West India sugar in *strength*; but critical examination has proved its fallacy. The resources of our State for making a sufficient quantity of sugar, not only for the consumption of Michigan, but for export to our sister States in quantities of millions of pounds, is undoubted, when we consider we have at least 30,000,000 of acres of land in our State which abound with the maple, which is not only a profitable tree for sugar, but affords most agreeable molasses, and an excellent vinegar.

According to the usual annual profit of a sugar-maple tree, it is worth, to the farmer, from two to three dollars; and it is to be hoped that the settler, in clearing his lands, will save the maple. On a farm of 200 acres, in the sugar-maple districts of our State, there are from 20 to 40 trees to the acre, which will average say 30 trees to the acre, and in 200 acres we find 6,000. If only 2,000 of them were suffered to remain, and each tree afford 5 pounds of sugar, the annal profit of the farm, in sugar alone, at 7 cents per pound, would be 550 dolrs., in addition to allowing 150 dolrs. to defray all the expenses of making it.

The *New York American* states, that the quality of the maple sugar in that market has greatly improved within the last three years, and the quantity has quadrupled in the same time. The reason assigned for the improvement in the quality, and the increase in the quantity, is the price the article brings. Our readers will scarcely credit the statement, that this sugar commands a better price than the best West India sugar. That the manufacture will continue to increase, seems reasonable under such favourable circumstances.

CENSUS OF THE CITY OF TORONTO, CANADA, FOR 1845, COMPILED FROM THE ASSESSORS' RETURNS.

		Census.		Religious Persuasions.																												
WARDS.		Males over Sixteen.	Males over Five and under Sixteen.	Males under Five.	Females over Sixteen.	Females over Five and under Sixteen.	Females under Five.	Total.	Church of England.	Church of Scotland.	Presbyterian Church of Canada.	United Secession Church.	Indep. Presbyterians	Church of Rome.	British Wesleyan Methodists.	Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada.	Episcopal Methodists	Primitive Methodists	Other Methodists.	Congregationalists.	Lutherans.	Jews.	Disciples of Christ.	Universalists.	Covenanters.	Baptists.	Quakers.	Unitarians.	Millerites.	Christian Socialists.	Mormon.	No Religion.
	St. David's Ward....	1972	736	595	2115	806	649	693	12635	297	520	147	1	1738	462	437	2	119	25	199	...	42	...	23	122	5	1311	1	2	...	130	
	St. Patrick's Ward..	1229	609	460	1317	555	454	462	1940	230	437	106	4	624	448	219	...	83	113	171	1	...	14	...	2	187	2	7	13	...	23	
	St. Andrew's Ward..	1126	500	360	1159	479	364	3988	1780	183	325	57	...	708	321	184	4	42	43	107	...	2	24	11	...	138	...	18	...	1	40	
	St. Lawrence Ward.	901	291	214	740	266	206	2618	1233	149	188	19	...	641	112	69	...	14	15	43	...	10	19	1	...	43	2	...	...	...	60
	St. George's Ward...	450	160	123	532	166	114	1345	779	69	127	26	2	335	58	15	...	32	4	52	1	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	21
		56782355	1752	5863	2271	1787	13706	3867	928	1597	355	7	1046	1401	924	6	310	200	572	212	100	1225	493	920	42	1	2	1	274			

Total.....	19,706
Total in 1844	18,420
Increase	1,286

NOTES ON THE SANDWICH, OR HAWAIIAN ISLANDS.

BY ROBERT CRICHTON WYLLIE, ESQ.

MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

(Continued from p. 89.)

King and Court.—The King and his small court have for several years resided chiefly at Lahaina, in the island of Maui; but since the end of June, they have been living here; and, I understand, this capital is to be their permanent residence. It is desirable that His Majesty should not be too far removed from the seat of his government, as his absence subjects his ministers to misrepresentation, and creates delay from the necessity of consulting him on all important measures of administration. I understand that during the recent troubles of his kingdom, and till the "*fiat*" of Her Britannic Majesty's Government upon the questions referred to them were known, it was His Majesty's wish to keep himself out of the way of unnecessary intrusion, whereby the *prestige* of his prerogatives might be impaired. There never was nor could be any wish on the part of his ministers to throw His Majesty into the shade, by studiously keeping him in retirement. In the existing state of things, it became their duty, in concurrence with the royal wish, to shield their master's prerogatives from any encroachment that could prejudice them in the eyes of his subjects. Now, His Majesty appears on the arena as a member of the family of recognised independent sovereigns, and the ministers are attempting to place his court, and organise his tribunals, upon a footing suited to his altered situation. In all this they only do what is their duty to the king, and what foreign Governments will expect them to do. Where everything was to be created *de novo*, errors are but to be expected; and fault has been found with the code of court etiquette decreed and with the etiquette observed on the late festival of the 3rd of July. After the explanation rendered, I believe by authority, in the *Polynesian* of the 31st of July, an intention to avoid any offensive preference becomes manifest; and with a Government so young, and surrounded by so many embarrassments, in my opinion offence ought not to be felt, where no intention to give it can be suspected. On proper application being made previously, the representatives of foreign powers are at all times admitted to a personal interview with the King, for the purpose of submitting to His Majesty any case of well-founded grievance which any of their countrymen may have against the Government or authorities of the country.

In speaking of the court, I cannot well omit making some allusion to the *King* himself. In all countries the character of the sovereign is to be approached with respect, and in this particular instance I do so in strict accordance with the feeling which I entertain towards the King of

these islands. It is not a little remarkable, that in a society where there are some few individuals disposed to blame, censure, and find fault with everything and everybody, I have never heard a single remark unfavourable to His Majesty Kamehameha III. All admit the goodness of his disposition; none profess to doubt the soundness of his intentions; none accuse him of cruelty, tyranny, or oppression; and those who have familiar access to him, all concur in ascribing to His Majesty much natural talent, and a good deal of acquired information. Amongst those, I am happy to quote my friend Major Low, of the Bengal Army, who lately made a tour in these islands, and after presenting to the King an introductory note from H. B. M.'s Consul-general, experienced from His Majesty the utmost kindness, rendered in the most frank, generous, and gentlemanly spirit. The Major retired from these islands with the most favourable opinion of His Majesty's character and talent. He expressed himself particularly struck with the King's remarks upon the native States of India and Persia, the policy of the British Government of India, and the organisation of the native army.

His Majesty, of late years, has become both the patron and the example of temperance among his subjects; and no one can be more regular in his attendance at church, or more zealous in discouraging the pagan rites, ceremonies, and superstitions, that formerly prevailed amongst the natives.

Kamehameha III. is now about thirty-two years of age, and though less robust than some of the chiefs, enjoys good health. On the 29th February, 1837, he was married to Kalama, now aged twenty-seven years, but by whom he has no offspring. In the event of his having no succession, the crown will devolve upon Alexander Liholiho, whom His Majesty has adopted for that purpose. He is a sprightly, promising youth, now in his eleventh year.

A singular feature in this monarchy, is the custom of appointing a female to be *premier* of the kingdom. This custom seems to have originated in the will of Kamehameha I., which declared the kingdom to belong to his son Liholiho, but that Kaahumanu (one of his queens) should be his minister.

The present premier is Kekauluohi, aged forty-eight, and apparently much respected by all classes. Her attributes under the constitution are to carry into execution all business which the King wishes to transact—to be His Majesty's special counsellor in the great business of the kingdom, to receive reports of all Government property and make it over to the King, and to concur with and approve of all important business which the King may transact in person. Whatever business in the kingdom she does, is to be considered as executed by the King's authority—but the King has *aveto* on her acts, while his own are not binding unless approved of by her.

The premier has one son, William Charles Lunailo, an interesting youth, now in his tenth year; but I presume his sex disqualifies him from being her successor, as Victoria Kamamalu, now in her sixth year, is the reputed heir to the *premiership*.

I may add here, that no pains are spared by Mr. and Mrs. Cook, through proper education and training, to fit these young persons, Alexander and Victoria, for the high functions which they are to be called upon to perform.

They are the children of his excellency Kekuanaoa, governor of Oahu, by Kinau or Kaahumanu, the *second premier*.

Native Habitations.—In point of neatness, cleanliness, and workmanship, the huts of the natives exceed those of the lower order of the Mexicans, in many parts of the republic that are reputed the most civilised. Still they are very defective in the essential points of elevation in the floor, in the roof, division of compartments, and ventilation. I do not see that, where the materials for construction are so abundant, and where the spare labour can so easily be afforded, a law requiring the natives to improve the construction of their huts, in these respects, could be considered oppressive. In most of the native huts, there is only one door, and no window. In such there can be no ventilation, and it must be extremely prejudicial to the health of the inmates, especially the children, to sleep six or eight hours in an atmosphere so heated, impure and confined. I am convinced that many diseases result from that cause alone.

Moles or Wharves.—From what “A Resident” writes to the editor of the *Polynesian*, it appears that he finds fault with my omission of the wharf in this port, which forms the frontage of the ship-building and repairing yard of Messrs. James Robinson & Co.

I do not suppose that any of the partners of that industrious, quiet, and highly-respectable firm, is the *Resident* who so complains; nor did I think that any other notice of their establishment was required, standing separate and immured, as it does, from the chief warehouses to which goods after being landed are conducted, than what I have already given.

On inquiry, however, I find that they do allow vessels to land their cargoes on their wharf, on payment of one dollar per day for every schooner that lies alongside—of two dollars for every brig, and of three for every ship.

I find also, that within their capacious premises, they have stores, where they allow goods to be deposited on very reasonable terms, which though far from most of the merchants, from their proximity to the anchorage of ships of war, are more eligible to receive their stores than any other in Honolulu, and also to receive goods landed here in bond, for reshipment.

As to the small wharf belonging to Mr. Reynolds, it is separated from his shop and dwelling-house by a public street, and being continuous with that of Messrs. Ladd & Co., I naturally supposed that they were the proprietors of the whole.

Messrs. Ladd & Co. charge 16 cents on every ton of goods landed on or shipped from their wharf, but make no charge for a vessel lying alongside, unless for repairs, or exceeding the reasonable time for discharging and embarking the cargo.

Courts of Law.—The Government has recently established a court of chancery and a court of admiralty, assisted by the law adviser of the Crown, John Ricord, Esq. Where private parties cannot agree among themselves, it is for their advantage that courts should exist, where their differences can be heard, fairly tried, and justly decided. This is more particularly the case with foreigners whose Governments cannot adjudicate upon cases within the jurisdiction of this kingdom.

Communication by the Isthmus of Panama.—If a ship-canal, or railroad, or tram-road, or even a good common road, were made across the Isthmus of Panama, connected with the Sandwich Islands by a line of steamers, doubtless it would greatly promote the prosperity of the Sandwich Islands.

But whence is the traffic to come to pay for the line of steamers? It has erroneously been supposed, both in Europe and America, that by a canal across the Isthmus, we would have China, the Philippines, and India, comparatively speaking, at our door. No greater fallacy ever prevailed; and the wonder is, how it came ever to be entertained.

If sailing vessels were employed, the voyage from England to	
Chagres would not be less, on an average, than	50 days.
Even were a ship-canal cut, we could not allow less time for a	
ship to cross from Chagres into the Bay of Panama than	2 "
The average passage of three vessels from Panama to this port	
has been	55 "
And the passage from this port to Macao or Hong-Kong will	
very seldom be done in less than	30 "
Making in all	137 days,
or eighty-five from Panama only.	

But suppose steamers were employed from England to Chagres, considering the number of places where they call for coal, and to land mails and passengers, they would have to run about 5,270 miles, and, at the very least, would require an average of 30 days, to which adding 87 days to Macao or Hong-Kong, the voyage from England would still be 117 days.

Again, for the sake of argument, let us suppose steamers established all the way. The time required may be calculated as follows:—

From England to Chagres	30 days.
Steaming through canal, and taking in coal, say	3 "
Steaming from Panama to this port, a distance of 4,505 miles,	
at an average of eight miles per hour, say	23 "
Stoppage at this port, taking in coals, &c., say	3 "
Steaming from this port to Macao or Hong-Kong, a distance of	
5,397 miles, at an average of eight miles per hour, say	28 "
Making in all	87 days,
at the very lowest calculation. There are instances of fast-	
sailing vessels doubling the Cape of Good Hope having made	
the voyage in less time.	

The overland mail from London to Hong-Kong, via Suez, and conveyed from Bombay by sailing vessels, has departed and arrived as mentioned below:—

Left London.	Arrived at Hong-Kong.	Number of Days.
Nov. 4, 1842	Feb. 7, 1843	95
Feb. 6, 1843	May 4, "	87
April 6, "	June 19, "	74
June 6, "	Aug. 25, "	80
July 6, "	Sept. 7, "	63
Aug. 6, "	Nov. 7, "	93
Sept. 6, "	Dec. 21, "	106
Oct. 6, "	Jan. 20, 1844	106

Average of eight arrivals 88 days.

But it is believed, that when the line is completed, the mail and passengers from London to Hong-Kong will be conveyed in 59 days only.

In the close of 1843, a friend of mine, Mr. Henry Wise, of London, published the following calculation, showing how that may be done; and it will be observed, he calculates only upon seven miles per hour as the average rate of steaming, while I have calculated upon eight.

SUGGESTIONS for accelerating the Communication between Great Britain and China.—Average Rate per Hour, 7 Miles.

Proposed route from Hong-Kong to London, and from London to Hong-Kong.	Course.	Distance in Miles.	Interval under weigh.		Interval at anchor.		Total interval.	
			Days.	Hours.	Days.	Hours.	Days.	Hours.
Hong-K. to Labuan	S. 2 deg. 18 m. E.	1009	6		1	12*	7	12
Pulo-Lab. to Singap.	S. 69 23 W.	707	4	6		12†	4	18
Singap. to Malacca	{ S. 64 48 W., 19 } { N. 51 41 W., 103 }	122		18		6†	1	
Malacca to Pinang	N. 30 37 W.	222	1	8		16†	2	
Pinang to Ceylon ..	{ N. 82 24 W., 303 } { S. 89 45 W., 916 }	1219	7	6	1	12†	8	18
Ceylon to Aden, as performed by P. and O. Steam N. Co., including two days' detention								11
Aden to Suez, do. do. do.								8
Suez to Alexandria, including all stoppages								3
Alexandria to Malta, do. do.								4
Malta to Marseilles, as performed by H.M.'s Post-office Packets								4
Marseilles to London, by regular course of post								5

* To receive coal.

† To receive coal, land and receive mails.

‡ To land and receive mails.

Total interval from Hong-Kong to London, and *vice versa*, by route proposed 59 days;

While the average interval of transmission of China correspondence, via Calcutta and Bombay, during the last twenty overland mails, from 10th October 1841, to 6th May 1842, has been 89 ,,

Making a difference of time, in favour of the proposed route, of 30 days.

The present average of eighty nine days exceeds the period occasionally occupied by fast-sailing ships in accomplishing the voyage, via the Cape of Good Hope.

London, Sept. 30, 1843.

(Signed) HENRY WISE.

Had I taken the average rate of steaming at seven miles in place of eight, it would have made about fifty-nine days from Panama to Hong-Kong, in place of fifty-one; or, in all, ninety-five days from England.

In further elucidation of my position, that a ship-canal across the Isthmus would have no effect in accelerating communication with India, China, the Philippine Islands, and Australia, &c., I beg reference to the following calculation of distances, for which I am indebted to Captain Charles Hope, of H. M. S. *Thalia* :—

From	To	Miles.
Panama	Nukahiva, Marquesas	3,759
do.	Honolulu, Oahu	4,505
do.	Papeite, Tahiti	4,458
do.	Port Nicholson, New Zealand ..	6,788
do.	Sydney, New South Wales	7,815
do.	Guayaquil	713
do.	Callao	1,329
do.	Port of Guatemala	734
do.	Valparaiso	2,620
do.	Acapulco	1,284
do.	San Blas	1,683
do.	Mazatlan	1,849
do.	Monterey, California	2,946
do.	Columbia River	3,525
San Blas	Honolulu	3,026
Honolulu	Macao	5,397
do.	Manila	4,876
do.	Jeddo, Japan	3,368
Falmouth, Engl.	Macao, via Suez	9,636
do.	do. Manila, do. do.	9,011
do.	do. Sydney, New South Wales ..	11,276
do.	do. Port Nicholson, New Zealand ..	12,346
do.	do. Hobart Town	10,810

From the above, it is evident that the advantages of a steam communication across the Isthmus of Panama would in a great measure be confined to the ports on the west coast of America.

The coast of Peru as far as Callao, of the republic of the Equator, of New Grenada, every part of the Isthmus, the coast of Central America and of Mexico, would derive great benefit from such a communication; but it could only be kept up with regularity at very great expense, and it is questionable whether the traffic in goods and passengers would afford a revenue to defray that expense.

A canal across the Isthmus, for sailing vessels, afterwards to proceed to those coasts, would yield scarcely any advantage whatever, unless to whalers destined for the N. West Coast, or bound home; for after getting into the Bay of Panama, it is extremely difficult to get out of it, and whether going southward or northward, a ship has to proceed in the face of a constant trade wind.

When the settlements on Columbia River become of importance, a steamer, at the rate of seven miles per hour, would reach them in about twenty-one days—or say fifty-three days from England.

What I have said above relating to steam communication across the Isthmus with England, applies also to North America, but not to the same extent, owing to the greater proximity of the southern ports of the United States to Chagres. But the time is yet far distant when the traffic between the United States and China would support a line of steamers stretching across the broad Pacific.

From the whole, it is obvious that the Sandwich Islands are not likely to become a grand depôt for a trans-Pacific line of steamers. But they may become so for the British and other war steamers visiting the coast of Mexico, or other groups of islands interspersed in this ocean. Coal of good quality for steamers is to be found at Vancouver's Island, and also, it is said, in other parts of the coast of the territory, along the N. West, known under the name of Oregon. By having depôts at San Francisco, Honolulu, and Mazatlan or San Blas, steamers of war would be as efficient in the northern Pacific as in the southern.

It is not to be supposed that Upper California, with its vast agricultural resources, will remain for ever neglected. The port of Monterey could be reached in seventeen and a half days' steaming from Panama, at the rate of seven miles per hour, or say fifty days from England, and from the United States in a much shorter period.

Since writing the foregoing, through the kindness of the Rev. Samuel C. Damon, I have been favoured with the following extract of a letter from Panama, written in April 1844 :—

"The Government of New Grenada have declared the privilege of making a canal across the Isthmus of Panama, granted to Messrs. Salomon, extinct. The French Chargé in Bogota reclaims it, as being still in force. The natives are jealous of the French, and suspect from the sudden interest shown about the Isthmus, that France has designs upon it."

From this, I presume that all that has appeared about Messrs. Baring, Brothers & Co., of London, having taken up the contract, was without foundation.

Under the want of any communication with Mexico, often for four or six months, it is sometimes advantageous to the merchants of Honolulu, to avail themselves of ships proceeding to China, for the conveyance of their letters to Europe and America.

When opportunities occur of vessels going to Mazatlan or San Blas, the shortest and most certain route for letters (as I have already stated) is certainly by way of Mexico; but it must be remembered, that the postage of each single letter, in that Republic alone, costs about 50 cents.

Salt Pits or Pans.—By referring to the list already published, it will be seen that salt ranks as one of the exports from this port.

The salt pits or pans, to the south end of the town, and the salt lake about two miles to the westward, afford ready means for manufacturing this commodity to a great extent, and during this year (1844) there has been a considerable demand for it, for export, to New South Wales, and other places.

Through Mr. William Paty, I learn that some intelligent natives

estimate the amount manufactured yearly, or rather some years, as high as 10,000 barrels. This probably is overrated; but no one can doubt that a much larger quantity might be made, if the natives could be induced to apply themselves diligently to the manufacture.

Since the 29th August, the Treasury Board have been advertising for labourers to gather salt from the Lake of Moanalua, and I am assured they now employ about 25 natives, to whom they pay 2 dollars per week, in cash, and that these 25 men collected 500 barrels in four days after they commenced.

After allowing for the wages of the labourers, at that rate, I am told that the Treasury Board could afford to sell the salt at 25 cents per barrel, of about 259 lbs. or upwards, placed on the beach of Moanalua.

If foreign vessels could calculate always upon obtaining cargoes at that price, I have no doubt that the demand would be greatly increased, and that the trade would become a source of considerable wealth to these islands. Vessels of light draught of water have no difficulty in embarking it from the beach of the lake, while to bring it in small country vessels to this port would cost only about 25 cents per barrel.

At 50 or even 60 cents, it is presumed it would answer in the markets of New South Wales, California, and the N. W. Coast.

As a branch of trade, this would be highly beneficial to these islands, although the profit on it should be small, from the number of hands that it would employ.

The greatest good of the greatest number, is the primary principle of every good Government; and if the administration of His H. Majesty can foster into existence branches of industry holding out a sure though low reward to the natives, I do not see that a certain degree of compulsion would not be excusable, with the view of training them to habits of regular industry, beneficial to themselves. A certain degree of sloth or disinclination to labour pervades all classes of the copper-coloured race: if they can earn, during one day, enough to live upon for three, they cannot comprehend why they should work during these three; to accumulate wealth or provide for the future seems no part of their care, and hence, indigence, disease, immorality, premature decay, and depopulation.

It is a remarkable fact, that the only countries where the copper-coloured race have multiplied on a par, or nearly so, with the whites, are those colonised by Spain. It is true, that under the system of "*mitas repartimentas*," and "*ecomendas*," thousands were exterminated by hard labour; but under that system they were initiated into habits of regular industry, and since the Independence many of them have risen to wealth and distinction.

Far be it from me to recommend a system of compulsion so atrocious as that introduced by the successors of Cortes and Pizarro; but if under the operations of the so-long-expected Belgian Company, or other adventurers who may be induced to embark their capital in rendering productive the soil of these islands, it should be found that unemployed natives will not agree to work for reasonable wages, I think the common good of the King and his subjects, and that of these natives themselves, would justify an enactment devoting those idlers to com-

pulsory labour on the public roads, or otherwise on Government account. It would not be difficult to register all natives industriously employed ; the natives themselves would seek the certificate of their employer, for protection ; contracts between master and servant would be readily enforced, and the last *bar* to the social improvement of the native race generally would be improved.

(To be continued.)

THE DEATH OF THE INDIAN.

SEE on his mat—as if of yore,
 All life-like, sits he here !
 With that same aspect which he wore
 When light to him was dear.
 But where the right hand's strength?—the breath
 'That breathed so stoutly, where,
 What time the pipe its lusty wreath
 Sent cheerly through the air?
 And where the hawk-like eye, alas !
 'That wont the deer pursue,
 Along the waves of rippling grass,
 Or fields that shone with dew ?
 Are these the limber, bounding feet,
 'That swept the winter snows?
 What stateliest stag so fast and fleet?
 'Their speed outstript the roe's !
 'These arms that then the sturdy bow
 Could supple from its pride,
 How stark and helpless hang they now
 Adown the stiffen'd side!
 Yet weal to him thus pass'd away,
 Where snow can fall no more,
 'To fields where dwells eternal May,
 And toil itself is o'er;—
 Where birds are blithe on every brake ;
 Where forests teem with deer ;
 Where glide the fish through every lake,
 One chase from year to year !
 With spirits now he feasts above ;
 He leaves what glory gave—
 The deathless deeds for praise to love,
 The dead clay for the grave !
 While high the Death Song wail for thee,
 Thy wants shall we forget?
 All in thy grave shall buried be
 Which pleased—they please thee yet !
 We lay the axe beneath his head
 He swung when strength was strong—
 The bear on which his banquets fed,—
 'The way from earth is long !
 And here, new sharpen'd, place the knife
 'That sever'd from the clay,
 From which the axe had spoil'd the life,
 'The conquer'd scalp away !
 The paints that deck the dead, bestow—
 Yes, place them in his hand—
 'That red the Kingly Shade may glow
 Amidst the Spirit Land !

S.

THE SUGAR-PRODUCING COLONIES OF THE EAST.

BY THE EDITOR.

PINANG has made rapid and important strides in this cultivation, and, in connexion with Province Wellesley, bids fair to take a decided lead in the manufacture of sugar among the East India Possessions. Several enterprising "Houses" there have taken up the thing with spirit, and already have settled very extensive estates.

The adaptation of the Settlement for the growth of sugar cane is so great, that no other limit can be conceived to its cultivation than the boundaries of the Province. There are 15,000 acres of unoccupied land in Province Wellesley, pronounced by competent judges to be well adapted for sugar cane; and there are capitalists, European and native, in George Town willing and able to erect factories, and bring the whole of it into cultivation. This tract of rich soil, which now produces nothing but jungle, the fruits of which support a thin population of apes and monkeys, would yield annually at least 15,000 tons of sugar. The conversion into sugar plantations of the single district which is now a forest, would relieve the inmates of every hut in Province Wellesley from the present excessive, because unaccustomed, pressure upon their scanty means. The exportation of a large quantity of sugar would enlarge the scope and renew the vigour of the trade of Pinang.

One thousand orlongs of land are now under sugar-cane cultivation; and nine thousand orlongs have been leased or applied for to form sugar plantations. In the course of two or three years, this will be all cultivated, and will yield 300,000 piculs of sugar annually. But, to be within the mark, let us suppose that only 5,000 orlongs are brought into cultivation, this will yield 150,000 piculs; and a duty of 3 per cent. upon the produce of sugar plantations alone, will more than meet the deficiency in the Pinang revenue.

In a petition of the merchants and planters to the Governor-General of India in 1841, praying that Pinang sugars might be placed on an equality as regarded duty with Bengal sugars, it was stated—

That the quantity of sugar imported is too small to form an item of any importance in the trade of the Settlement, and is not required for internal consumption, the sugar produced being already greatly more than equal to the supply of the Settlement. The annexed statement will show, that during the last four years the sugar exported has been nearly five times greater in quantity than that imported.

That the produce of the Settlement being so greatly in excess of its internal consumption, no class of inhabitants could in any way suffer from a prohibition

of the importation of foreign sugar, or sugar the growth of any British Possession into which foreign sugar can be legally imported.

That by the equalisation of the duty upon sugar produced in Bengal and sugar produced in this Dependency, its cultivation would be immediately extended, and the trade of this port would thereby greatly increase.

That a large portion of the best land in this Settlement remains in a state of original jungle; and as much of it is not adapted for the growth of rice, there is no likelihood of its being speedily brought under cultivation by the native ryots; and unless encouragement be held out to capitalists to lease it from Government, for the purpose of growing sugar, it will continue to be without value to Government.

That about 4,000 orlongs of land, in the condition of jungle, have recently been leased from Government to form sugar plantations; and it is probable that if your petitioners participated with the growers of Bengal in the advantages secured by the aforesaid act, the whole uncultivated land in this Settlement would speedily be leased for the same purpose, and large tracts of unprofitable jungle would be converted into the most valuable and productive portions of the Settlement, yielding a considerable revenue to Government.

That the trade of this port would thereby be greatly increased, not only from the exportations of sugar, but from the greater quantity of shipping and amount of capital that would be brought to the Settlement.

STATEMENT of Sugar Imported into and Exported from Prince of Wales Island during Four Years.

	1837-38.		1838-39.		1839-40.		1840-41.	
	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value	Quantity	Value
	Piculs	Sp. Drs.	Piculs	Sp. Drs.	Piculs	Sp. Drs.	Piculs	Sp. Drs.
Imported	3002	20009	407	2567	1039	7330	1980	14279
Exported	9713	93921	6297	30654	5791	31843	13877	61914

It is through the spirited exertions of Messrs. Brown and Co., Messrs. Stewart and Co., and three non-mercantile gentlemen, Messrs. Bacon, Donnadieu, and the Rev. Mr. Boucho, that the sugar cultivation in Pinang and Province Wellesley has made such rapid progress. These gentlemen have persevered in the face of many obstacles, the most formidable being the heavy differential duties against Straits sugars in the home markets; and it is but right that they should have the full credit for their efforts, which they have so well earned.

Messrs. Brown and Co. were the first parties in the Settlement to embark in sugar cultivation—their water-mill on their Otaheite sugar estate being the first mill for the manufacture of sugar erected on the island. Messrs. Stewart and Co., we hear, have three large steam engines now employed on one of their estates, and are expecting out another of 30-horse power.

We annex a few extracts from the *Pinang Gazette*, showing the progress that is making.

We are happy to observe that our sugar manufactories are still progressing, notwithstanding the capriciousness of the Indian Government to check the concern, by withholding from us the benefit of the Sugar Act. Mr. Donna-dieu, of Jawee Estate, we understand has recently received a mill, to be worked by steam, of 14-horse power, which is expected to be put up and ready in a month. This, with that belonging to Messrs. Bacon and Co., we believe will come into operation about the same time, both of which are capable, with the addition of the various minor mills already at work, to produce for the ensuing year a supply sufficiently extensive to excite an interest in our island as a sugar-producing Colony, when nothing will be wanting but the sugar boon to raise the island to prosperity and importance. But however disheartening matters may appear at present, we yet, under these misgivings, hope in the end to have our petition granted, by reason that we cannot perceive any tangible grounds the Government have for refusing to comply with a request so essentially necessary as it is for the welfare of the country, and so much in opposition to its own interest, forming, as it will be, one of the staple articles of produce, from which a considerable revenue would accrue to the State, and much derivable advantage to commerce and the country generally.

The sugar manufactured at Province Wellesley, of which a considerable shipment was made in the "Camieu" for England, was tested by competent and experienced persons, and found to be of superior quality, and equal to any West India or Mauritius sugars. The soil, from its great fertility, is well adapted particularly for this species of cultivation; and, from the facilities the country affords for communication, intersected as it is by rivers, these localities present advantages which it would be in vain to look for in any other portion of the Straits, and which we are confident would be readily availed of by other adventurers, if the restrictions were removed.

Another splendid sugar-mill has been lately set up in the Tasee Factory, conducted by Monsieur La Bouchere, and is now in full operation. This estate has already 200 orlongs of ground planted out with canes, which appear to be extremely luxuriant, and in very thriving condition. The systematic manner in which the whole affair is conducted, is very creditable to Monsieur La Bouchere, whose skilful exertions are unabated in rendering this a most valuable estate. We hope to hear very soon a similar account of the progress of the new adventurers who have embarked in this most desirable and profitable concern, and that these results may be an inducement for other capitalists to establish themselves in Province Wellesley for the same purpose.

We understand it is the intention of several other gentlemen of the island to engage in the sugar cultivation, who are ready to embark a large capital on the undertaking. We anticipated as much; and it was only the unsettled state of the Land Regulations, and the unfavourable prospects of the Sugar Act, that have deterred many from entering upon the agriculture of the island. We have, however, yet to abide the Sugar Petition, which it is to be hoped will now be forthcoming, since the Straits affairs are now being disposed of. The Bengal Government are now not engaged in any matter of importance, so that we may expect the question to be soon arranged, when our best expectations, we trust, will be realised. This Settlement will then be placed in the most advantageous position, as being a free port—unencumbered with any vexatious Government regulations—lands to be had on the most favourable terms—and, if the Sugar Act is extended to this island, as we expect, it will be strange indeed if this Colony will not then rise to some degree of importance; we will only require capitalists to make this a most flourishing Possession. The natural advantages of Pinang and Province Wellesley are too well known for any further comment; and the success which has attended the labours of the present agriculturists in the sugar and other cultivations, proves that the soil is well adapted for such purposes, and its capabilities for any sort of cultivation. We have now nothing to do but to select our ground and commence operations at once. The agriculturists will now no longer be exposed to uncertainties; experience and practical knowledge have taken the place of theory. It now only requires capital and energy to realise our best wishes.

The success that attended the exertions of the spirited merchants received a check in the unwise difference of duty with which they were at first burthened ; but this being now removed, their sugars will attain a decided superiority over foreign free-grown. At this moment, Pinang is producing sugar equal to good West India Muscovado, at about two dollars per picul (133½ lbs.), or nearly three rupees per maund ; and we have no doubt whatever but that by adopting every improvement in cultivation and manufacture, she will be able to lessen the average to something like three to four shillings per Calcutta Bazar maund.

This fine island is doubly blessed ; viz., in its great natural advantages, and the possession of an enterprising and persevering mercantile body, who have not been deterred by the impolitic measures of Government from embarking their capital in such extensive undertakings to their own well-deserved emolument (as it has proved) and the improvement of the country. We do not entertain the least dread as to the well-being of this place, feeling assured that it must go on and prosper.

A late *Singapore Free Press* congratulates the inhabitants of Pinang on being at length allowed to export their sugar to England at the low rate of duty, and adds—"We have no doubt that the agriculture of Pinang will now flourish exceedingly." We believe it will ; for with ample supplies of labour, and with grain selling at the lowest possible price, in consequence of the superabundant imports from the granary of the Bay of Bengal, Arracan, there can be no reason why the cultivation of sugar at Pinang should not flourish. Arracan has just been admitted to the same privileges ; and we would take this opportunity of again expressing our hope that the privilege which has been suddenly, we will not say capriciously, taken away from Maulmain, will be speedily restored to it. The power which has been vested in the local authorities to regulate the sugar duties in the East, by declaring any port entitled to the benefit of the lower duties, while other ports are saddled with the higher rate of duties,* ought to be exercised with consideration, if not with leniency ; and certainly the mere circumstance that foreign sugars had been smuggled into any ports, owing to the laxity of Government in enforcing its own prohibitions, ought not to operate to the disadvantage, rather the ruin, of men who have embarked their capital in the manufacture of sugar with spirit, in the hope that the moderate scale of duties would continue to prevail. In the exercise of this delegated power, this Government is acting, not for its own benefit, or on its own views of policy, but simply as the instrument of the home authorities. Their object was to protect the revenues of England, not to crush the prospects of enterprising men ; but in the course adopted regarding Maulmain, it is impossible to see how the fiscal interests of England can be promoted, while it is certain that the rising energies of that much-depressed Settlement must be seriously affected.

At a Meeting of the Committee of the Antigua General Agricultural Society in March last, the Secretary presented papers from D. B. Garling, Esq., on the expense of sugar cultivation in the East Indies,

and stated that Mr. Garling had commissioned him to say that he should be happy to procure any information which would be of service to the Society, through his brother, Samuel Garling, Esq., Resident Commissioner of the East India Company at Pinang.

The following queries had been proposed by Mr. Garling to his brother:—

I wish you to acquaint me with the size of your Pinang sugar estates—the capital invested in them—the rent or tenure under which they are held—the annual expense of cultivation, and such other information as you may be enabled to obtain?

To the above queries the subjoined replies had been received:—

No. 1.

On the island of Singapore the East India Company holds the fee of all the land. Some small portion is held under leases of 99 and 100 years at various rentals per English acre; but for the most part the land is settled upon by squatters who have reclaimed it from the forest or jungle, and who, pending the long-promised Land Regulations, remain in the unlimited possession of it. Only an inconsiderable portion of the island is in a state of cultivation; the greatest part of it is still forest. The whole island is undulating, a succession of hills and dales; the highest point not much exceeding 500 feet. The hills are mostly composed of red clay, more or less mixed with iron and sand, and covered with magnificent forest trees; whilst the plains are of a whitish clay, and the hollows contain much turf or peat, the accumulated residuum of decayed vegetation for ages past. The soil generally is good, although not what may be classed rich—yet being a stratum of clay, easily pulverised, and in a climate usually damp, yields good crops; 30 to 35 piculs (of 133½ lbs.) or about 4,300 lbs. of your sugar, that is of sugar and molasses together, as taken out of the coolers, is a fair average per acre.

The cane mostly planted is of the Tahiti species, mixed with a native-grown cane known as the "Salangor" or "Lime" (Capor) cane. The canes are here ripe or fit for cutting in twelve or thirteen months, and ratoons in ten months. Planting and grinding go on the whole year round—that is, whenever ready and when the weather is suitable. There are no fixed seasons here, as in the West Indies, appropriated to each business. In Singapore there is nothing whatever destructive to the cane; you are sure to reap what you plant; the quality and grain of the sugar is as good as any from the West Indies, when made after the same process. Megass and trash are used for boiling, and the expense of firewood obviated. The rum distilled from the molasses and skimmings is considered to be of as good a flavour as good West India rum. As the ground may be said to be wholly free of stones, it is easily prepared, when cleared of jungle, for cultivation, either by hoeing or ploughing. But little ploughing has hitherto been done. An estate of 300 acres of canes is worked here by 130 able-bodied Madras or Chinese Coolies, all males, at an expense of 7,000 dolrs. Spanish, including every expense. Picked labourers are paid from 3 to 4 dolrs. per month; drivers or overseers, 4½ dolrs. per month; carpenters, masons, blacksmiths, and such-like mechanics, at from 6 to 9 dolrs. per month. In all cases the hired people are found in nothing except house-room, which is done for the convenience of the proprietor. They are paid half their wages monthly, and the remainder at the end of their yearly engagements. The working hours are from six o'clock in the morning (the roll is called at half-past five o'clock) till eleven a.m., and from one p.m. till six p.m.—in all, ten hours. Sundays are observed or not, at the pleasure of the proprietor. Five holidays are allowed during the year, at the pleasure of the Coolies. Sugar-boilers, and sugar-house and distillery-men (Chinese or Indians), are paid from 10 to 14 dolrs. per month.

The following are the current prices of the leading articles used and required on a sugar plantation; and from these and the above premises, your

friend can easily estimate the result of such an undertaking here. I ought to have said, that although nothing as yet has been required by Government for jungle land, still, to bring it fit for cultivation entails an expense of about 60 or 70 dolrs. per acre. It would be cheaper to buy out Chinese squatters whose land is already cleared.—Planks, 14 ft. long by 10 in. and 1 in. thick, 10 cts. per 100; smaller ones, 6 to 8 cts. per 100; beams of hard wood, 18 ft. by 6 in. square, 40 to 60 cts. per 100; bricks, 1 dol. 30 cts. per 1,000; tiles, 1 dol. 60 cts. per 1,000; lime, 2 dolrs. 50 cts. for 40 piculs; carts, 12 to 16 dolrs. each; bullocks, 12 to 16 dolrs. each; ponies, 12 to 60 dolrs. each.

No. 2.

As the sugar manufacture on European principle is newly introduced here, the question moved cannot be answered by the average of long experiments; but the Chinese have cultivated the sugar cane here for a long time, and as they may be acknowledged as a very intelligent and calculating people, I think that, taking from them what I consider proper, and stating what I have myself experienced, I shall be able to present exact answers.

The Chinese agree, that the average cost of sugar canes cultivated, cut, and brought to the mill-house, is from 1 dol. to 1½ per picul of sugar with syrup made from those canes. I have contracts with Chinamen for 200 orlongs of forest land, to be cut, cleared, planted in sugar canes, grown, and, in short, cut, tied, and put on the edges of the roads, for the price of 1 dol. 60 cts. for every picul of sugar with syrup made with the canes coming from those 200 orlongs. After that crop I will get my own ground cleared, and the expenses will be reduced.

I have always found that the Chinese are expensive in their work, and that the Chinamen, when employed by Chinese masters, are slow-working coolies. My calculation, and Mr. Balestier's at Singapore, have convinced me that the sugar cane, before the mill-house, costs us on an average 1 dol. and sometimes as low as 80 cuts per picul.

Estates.—Sugar estates appear to be conducted here on a larger scale than in Jamaica.

Jarvee Estate, when in full plantation, that is in two years, will produce about 25,000 piculs of sugar, besides the spirit.

Val D'Or Estate, in full revenue, will go as far as 35,000 piculs, besides the spirit.

Iati Estate, I have been told, will produce 5 or 6,000 piculs of sugar a-year.

Mr. Bacon's Estate will go, I have been told, to 10,000 piculs of sugar.

Local Advantages.—Here no earthquake, no hurricane, no drought is feared; the plantation of the sugar canes is conducted with nearly the same result for each year, there being no remarkable difference in the seasons. At the changes of the monsoons there is more rain, but there is always water enough for planting with confidence.

Machinery.—The expenses for the machinery brought from Europe must be the same as in the West Indies, only we employ more powerful machinery.

Cost of Buildings.—Jarvee's buildings cost—My house, brick-built, with one story, 90 feet long, 40 feet broad, with cook-room, stables, &c. &c., 2,000 dolrs. One building in bricks, covered with tiles, 275 feet long, 50 feet broad, containing steam-mill (14-horse), two sets of pans, curing-house, distillery, &c. &c., 2,000 dolrs.

Houses for the working people are made in the cheapest way in this country, as we have never any bad weather. Houses for 100 coolies will cost 50 dolrs., and will remain three years without requiring repair.

Cartage.—Carting expenses are very reasonable; we pay on an average 9 dolrs. for one buffalo.

Medical Attendance.—There is no medical attendance found here for the working people; when sick, the natives return home.

Bagging the Sugar.—The sugar here is dried in the sun and put in bags. One Siam mat-bag will hold a picul, and costs 4 cuts; if made double, for fine sugar, the expense for the package will be 8 cents.

Carriage.—The expense of bringing the produce to town is very little; carriage by water is the most common. Jarvee Estate, twenty miles from the town, got a boat, conveying 25 tons of produce, and bringing back whatever might be required, for 4 dolrs. each voyage, the crew being Malays.

Expenses.—The boiling the sugar—all the expenses for manufacturing, drying, packing, making the spirit, never exceed 20 cuts per picul. Here, as I suppose in every part, one really good manager is paid a high salary; but if, as is the case with me, the proprietor is the head man of his business, the overseer's expense is very trifling.

The average return for one orlong of sugar canes (one orlong is 240 square feet) is forty-two piculs of sugar. The canes ratoon two, three, and sometimes four crops, and they are generally as fine as the first crop; if, however, they are inferior, they are dug out—for the Chinese devote great care to the plantations, and inferior canes are not worthy of attention.

SINGAPORE.—The whole of this island may be said to be only one great jungle, which merely requires enterprise and capital to convert it into one of the most lovely and productive spots on the face of the globe. A few spice plantations and cocoanut groves have been planted out, but these are as nothing to the extent in jungle still remaining. With a rich soil, admirably adapted for sugar-cane culture, and producing canes as fine as any in the world, with westerly showers, running streams for machinery, and labour in as great abundance as can be desired at five rupees each Chinaman, Singapore only wants her jungle cut, to render her in every respect eligible to take a first-rate position as a sugar-producing country.

A writer in a recent number of the *Singapore Free Press* thus enlarges on the agricultural capabilities of the Settlement:—

Notwithstanding what may be intimated elsewhere, no one here affects to consider this as "purely a commercial Settlement," as the opening of roads in the interior have everywhere disclosed throughout the country a body of excellent soil fitted to produce every variety of intertropical crops, and nothing is wanting to bring out its resources but the permanent settlement of the land tenures, and to be put, as to duties, in the home market, on a footing of equality with other British Possessions. Should these ever be obtained, there is little doubt that Singapore would be as flourishing in agriculture as she is in commerce—the one giving additional life to the other. There are upwards of 200,000 acres of cultivable ground on the island, which, if generally planted, in sugar canes for instance, could be made to yield easily as much sugar as the mountainous islands of Mauritius and Bourbon, neither of which have as much available land, and which each export towards 35,000 tons of sugar. Such products would require a large population, which is at hand in India and China on both sides of us, who would cause a corresponding demand for commodities, for their clothing and food, and for suitable machinery for the different branches of industry to which they might apply themselves in connexion with agriculture; a fair proportion of wealth would accumulate in the country, and probably the greatest advantage resulting from this state of things would be derived by the merchants, who not only would find ample means at hand for returns, but the ships which are commonly a burthen on their hands would cease to be so, by the quantity of freight which would have to find its way to Europe or elsewhere.

Whilst on this subject I may be permitted to say that it would be well in the Home Government to cast a look towards these Straits (Malacca) before they make any further move for the introduction of foreign sugar to consumption; the plea for which is, that the people may have *cheap* sugar, and also to open an outlet for the manufactures of the country in exchange.

If sugar can be made cheap anywhere, no portion of the earth offers a fairer field than the British Possessions on or about the Peninsula of Malacca. The climate is likewise suitable, as the cane comes to maturity in twelve and thirteen months, and not in fifteen or sixteen as in the West Indies and in other sugar-growing countries, and it is planted and manipulated during every month of the year, for there are no strictly dry and wet seasons. The quality of the sugar is classed by the London brokers as identical with good grained West India. Labour may be had to any extent either from British India or China, which, as has been already said, are in our immediate neighbourhood, and is not dear, for able labouring men, Indians and Chinese, are had at three to three and a half Spanish dollars per month, and not found in anything but lodging, and for this the convenience of having the coolies at hand. Engagements are besides made with the Chinese to grow canes, which, on being made into sugar by the mill-owners, are paid for at rates from one to one and a half dollar per picul of sugar of 133½ lbs. English weight made therefrom, the Chinese receiving meanwhile monthly advances for their support of two Spanish dollars per month, which are repaid after the manipulation of the canes. This country is free from duties on exports and imports, and consequently its products as well as the commodities for its use are not burthened with charges but such as are necessarily incidental to transmission or importation. The country throughout is proverbially healthful for men and cattle, and is wholly free from those dreadful hurricanes or earthquakes which in the West Indies, and Bourbon, and Mauritius, in the course of a few hours destroy the labour of a whole year. The husbandman is quite sure to reap in due time the seed he has put into the ground.

These are the *positive* advantages possessed by a very considerable extent of country, composed at the west end of the Straits of Province Wellesley, containing 180,000 acres, Malacca including Naning 1,152,000, and Singapore 200,000 acres, forming an aggregate of 1,532,000 acres or thereabouts, which would go a great way towards making up the deficiency of the *West India sugar*, an article to which the long habit of using has given a particular value in Great Britain, and which the ungrained and paste-like sugar of India does not replace for domestic use.

As the countries in the immediate vicinity of these Settlements are very thinly populated with idle Malays, whose long habits of warfare and land and sea piracy have caused the country to return very generally to its original state of jungle, the sultans and rajahs of those several States would not be likely to reject propositions to cede their respective territories for a fair compensation, or for annuities for one or more lives, in the same manner that the island of Singapore was purchased of its sultan, an arrangement which would open an immense field, many times larger than all the other British sugar Colonies together, and in which not only sugar but any other Colonial crops might be grown to any extent, and without the least doubt as cheaply as in any part of the world where *free labour* prevails.

As an outlet for the home manufactures it would seem to follow naturally that the demand for them would be more constant and greater from a Colony whose principal intercourse was with the mother-country, and whose products were shipped and consumed there, than from foreign countries, who looked to their own mother-land for supplies, and who, by burthening the manufactures of Britain with higher duties than their own, impeded their importation and use. The manufacturers would therefore be as great gainers in finding a good market as the people in having *cheap* sugars, by the adoption of a policy which would put the Straits sugars, as to duties, on a footing with those of other British Possessions. A policy which would cause capital, population, and industry to concentrate here, and bring out the immense resources of this fine country, abounding in noble rivers, rich plains and valleys, which is now a wilderness, the abode of man in his lowest condition contending for food with the most ferocious wild beasts, in the midst of those interminable forests which everywhere overshadow the land.

At a time like the present, when the sugar question has become one of great importance to Government and people, it might be well that ministers turned

their eyes this way. Let them consult competent persons in London conversant with the quality of the products of the Straits, and let them consult a hundred intelligent men having a personal and practical knowledge of these Settlements, and of the territories about them on the Peninsula, and with the facts obtained from these various sources, no one here will for a moment doubt that its value will be known and appreciated; that the tenure of the land will be established in a satisfactory manner for settlers, and that the home duties, instead of being, as they now are, prohibiting, will be encouraging; and this fair portion of the earth, which is now pointed at on the map as an immense waste, will be turned into fruitful fields, not only supporting a large population of its own, but enriching the mother-country by returning to her (in the products of her soil—the sugar now so much wanted at a cheap price) the capital and interest borrowed of her, the value and profits of the supplies sent, and the fortunes of those of her sons who have laboured here successfully.

In Singapore the cultivation has been prosecuted by two enterprising and persevering gentlemen, Messrs. Balestier and Montgomerie, who have successfully established the fitness of the soil and climate of Singapore for sugar culture. The cultivation is rapidly extending, and large tracts of ground are being brought under the operations of the husbandman. The system of contracts with the Chinese has, by experience, been found to be the best plan of proceeding, and has accordingly, we believe, been very extensively adopted by one or both of these gentlemen. By it, not only is a better cane produced, but the crop is more abundant. The plan is this: the ground is cleared, planted, and the whole management of it undertaken by the Chinese, who bring the crop to maturity and cut it down. It is carted from the ground by the manufacturer to the mill, and the Chinese are allowed at a certain rate upon the out-turn. The sum at present given is about $1\frac{1}{2}$ dollars per picul; but, as the cultivation extends, and more Chinese are found willing to engage in it, it will, no doubt, be considerably reduced, and still leave the Chinese contractor a very handsome profit. An acre of cane produces from thirty to forty piculs of sugar. The quality of the sugar, which is as material a point as the quantity, is first-rate, consisting of a fine strong grain, excellently adapted for the purposes of the sugar-refiner.

There is much land on the island well suited for the growth of the sugar cane, and were parties encouraged, by a relaxation of the heavy duties against which Singapore planters will now have to contend, to embark in the cultivation, Singapore could annually send home a very large supply of sugar to the home market. We may here take the opportunity of remarking, that very erroneous and unfavourable ideas have been formed as to the adaptation of Singapore for agriculture. This no doubt may have in part arisen from some inferior soils having been at first selected for planting operations, and the result of the cultivation of which has been rather discouraging. It is admitted that the climate of Singapore is admirably suited for most kinds of tropical cultivation, and the quality of the soil is therefore the essential point of the inquiry. On this head it might be sufficient for answer to instance the beautiful plantations of different kinds of fruit and spice trees which are to be found in the neighbourhood of the town, the soil of which is by no means equal to many other parts of the island. In fact we have

good ground for stating that in the interior and as yet little known parts of the island the soil is of a very superior description, and that very large tracts may be found suited as well for spices as for sugar, cocoanuts, &c. Whether these capabilities are to be availed of to any great extent will depend in a great measure on the amount of encouragement and protection which Straits agriculture may experience from Government. With the present small protection and large annual increase of production, spices offer very little temptation to the capitalist to embark his money in their cultivation, while the very unfavourable terms on which Straits sugars are admitted to British markets, amounting almost to exclusion, discourage the formation of sugar plantations.

The disadvantages under which the cultivation of sugar has from the first been carried on in the Straits have been great, and every year they have been augmenting. Port after port in the East Indies has been shut to the admission of Straits sugars, till now Bombay is the only place to which they can be sent, and there they have to compete with Ceylon, Java, Siam, Manila, &c. In the home market they had an 8s. duty against them in favour of the sugars of other British Colonies, and now they will not only have this, but instead of a protective duty of 31s. against foreign sugar as formerly, they will only have 2s. China, Java, and Manila are now brought into the market to compete with them on almost equal terms.

There seems no reason whatever for excluding Straits sugars from the home markets by the present heavy duties. The only one that could be brought forward would be the danger of foreign sugar being brought into the home market at British duties through these Settlements being free ports. This danger we consider very small indeed, and not so likely to happen as that slave-grown sugars may be introduced through Manila, China, or Java. But in truth no ill effects would arise from putting Straits sugar on an equal footing with other British sugars; no fetters need be put upon trade or complicated machinery devised for this purpose. All that is necessary is to grant them the same privileges in regard to the mode of admission to the home markets as Java, Manila, and China. If the securities required in the case of these countries are sufficient to guard against the admission of slave-grown sugars through them, why are they not sufficient for Singapore and Pinang? If certificates of origin by British consuls are thought to be adequate checks against fraud in foreign sugars, will not certificates by the authorities here be equally good? But even if there is thought to be more danger here, there are facilities for additional checks which cannot be availed of in foreign States. If in the case of spices, tin, and hides, certificates from the authorities of the Straits Settlements procure their admission to the home markets on lower duties, surely sugar is not of so much less bulk compared with these articles as to increase the chance of the laws being evaded by attempts to pass off foreign sugar as the production of our own soil. If the declaration by the shipper and the certificate by the consul, which are all that is required in the case of the sugars of Java, China, and Manila, is not enough, there can be had in the Straits Settlements in addition the further security afforded by the

declaration of the grower and the registration of the plantations. Without any additional expense to Government, such a system could be easily organised by registering the mills, and requiring yearly, half-yearly, or monthly, declarations of the quantity manufactured, as would render attempts at fraud impossible, even were parties found capable of running the hazards of trying to commit it.

We therefore do hope that the Home Government will see the expediency of granting to the Straits planters some more favourable terms than they at present enjoy; and if they will not put them on the same footing with the other sugar-growing Possessions, at least give them some approximation to it. If a difference of duty must still be maintained, let it be by admitting the Straits sugars at 26s.; the other Colonies would then have a duty of 2s. to compensate for the want of those superior privileges which the Straits are thought to enjoy, while on the other hand they would have a protection of 8s. in competing with foreign sugars.

CHINA AND HONGKONG.—We understand that the Chinese sugars imported recently into London and Liverpool have been much approved of, and there is a prospect of a considerable trade in sugar with the Chinese Empire. The following article on the subject is from the *Friend of China*:—

The admission of free-labour sugar of foreign growth, at a moderate duty, will bring forward unexpectedly a new export from China at the very time that it is so much required. Many have looked forward in perspective to the possibility of Chinese sugar ultimately finding its way to the English market, but none, or very few, could have dreamt that its almost immediate shipment would offer a regulator to the present deranged state of our trade with China; the inequality between what we give, and what we receive, being too great for a healthy commerce. The quarters from which fresh supplies of sugar can be obtained, in consequence of this new regulation, are Batavia, Manila, Siam, and China. It is with the last of these that we have a special interest, and we will shortly investigate the nature of the trade, and the probability of its being lucrative, premising that if sugar can be purchased in China at a price sufficiently low to afford a profit upon the shipment, the quantity which Great Britain can consume, at a moderate reduction on present prices, is almost unlimited, or at least greater than can be brought forward for some years. In quality, the Chinese sugar is second to none of the white or clayed sugars of India. In the Bombay market it commands a better price than either Bengal, Siam, or Manila. It is with these sugars it would have to compete in the English market, and the question is, admitting it to be equal in quality, can it be shipped to pay at the current rates of the London market? The strong Muscovados of the West Indies and the Mauritius, even of the best quality, do not command so much by 2s. per cwt. as the best class of Bengal sugar; it is by this scale that we must measure the capabilities of that of Chinese growth. In the *London Journal of Commerce*, of date 11th May, Bengal white sugar, good and fine, is quoted at from 64s. 6d. to 70s. per cwt., duty paid. With this quotation as a guide, we turn to the sugar of China, at the current prices of the day. We will give two statements of the actual cost laid down in England—one calculated at the present exchange of 4s. 3d., the other at an exchange of 4s. 6d.

Exchange 4s. 3d.

No. 3.—Sugar, picul 4,50 dolrs. cwt.	£0	16	0
Shipping Charges and Insurance, 8 pr. ct.	0	1	3
Freight .. .. .	..	0	4
Import Duty .. .. .	..	1	14
5 per cent. additional .. .. .	..	0	1
		9	

Per cwt. £1 17 0

No. 1.—Sugar, picul 5,50 dolrs. cwt.	£0 19 0
Shipping and Insurance, 8 per cent.	.. 0 1 3
Freight .. .. .	.. 0 4 0
Import Duty .. .. .	.. 1 14 0
5 per cent. additional .. ..	.. 0 1 9

Per cwt. .. £3 1 0

Exchange of 4s. 6d.

No. 3.—4,50 dolrs. picul, cwt.	£0 17 0
Shipping and Insurance ..	0 1 4
Freight	0 4 0
Import Duty	1 14 0
5 per cent. additional..	0 1 9

Per cwt. .. £2 18 1

No. 1.—picul, 5,50 dolrs. cwt. .	£1 0 10
Shipping and Insurance ..	0 1 8
Freight	0 4 0
Import Duty	2 4 0
5 per cent. additional	0 1 9

Per cwt .. £3 2 3

If these statements are correct, and we believe that they are over rather than under the mark, at the exchange of 4s. 3d. there is a profit of from 7s. 6d. to 9s. per cwt., subject to the deductions of commission, brokerage, and wharfage in England, and at the more probable exchange of 4s. 6d. a profit of from 6s. 5d. to 7s. 9d., subject to the same deductions.

The quality of Chinese sugar, we are persuaded, is better than that of any sugar that has not gone through the process of refining; and though we have taken Bengal as a standard, it would probably fetch a couple of shillings more. By referring to some old memorandums taken in 1840, we find that in Bombay at that period China sugar was worth 9 8-10 per lb.; Manila, fine, 5 6-10; Bengal, fine, 7½; and Siam, fine, 8½. The nearest approach to the produce of China was that of Siam, which by late advices from Singapore is worth in that market 5,50 dolrs. per picul, the price at which we have rated No. 1 Sugar in China.

In a recent number of the *Hongkong Register* we also noticed the annexed paragraph :—

Proposed Sugar Cultivation.—We hear that Messrs. W. Hall and Co. of this place are about to commence the cultivation of 200 orlongs of sugar cane on the north bank of the Qualla Junjong, not far from Tasseh Estate. They have purchased an eight-horse-power high-pressure steam engine, and have already commenced building a place in which to put it up. It is their intention, we believe, to manufacture sugar with this, not only from the cane which they produce on their own property, but also from the cane grown by the Chinese in their neighbourhood which they may be able to purchase up, or which may be sent by the owners to their mill to be manufactured at a certain rate per picul. There cannot be a doubt that the improved processes introduced here by the European planters will materially diminish the expense of manufacturing the article, and that the Chinese will be unable to compete with them beyond the mere cultivation of the cane. A mill, therefore, got up with such objects as Messrs. W. Hall and Co.'s will, in all probability, pay.

Sugar was formerly exported from China to America in considerable quantity, it having reached the average amount of 4,500,000 lbs. for a series of years between 1817 and 1821; but the amount has gradually diminished, with occasional exceptions, to the present time.

(To be continued.)

OUR NOTE-BOOK.

SEARCH FOR COAL IN MALACCA.—On Thursday we observed some specimens of rock &c. lying in the Company's buildings which, we understand, Captain Congalton of the H. C. Steamer *Diana* collected at a point of the mainland, near Girbee, situated 300 miles north of this island. The steamer, we hear, could not approach nearer the land than four miles, but Capt. Congalton with some of the crew landed in two of the steamer's boats. The line of coast, for a considerable way, was surveyed; it was found generally elevated and rocky. Two cliffs—one of great height and both of considerable length—were carefully examined, and from the lower of the two the specimens were taken.

The cliff referred to is upwards of twenty feet high, and a natural vertical section showed it to consist of—from above downwards—first, earthy matter of a dark brown colour for about eleven feet, then for the next seven or eight feet hard calcareous rock distributed in layers of a few inches each in thickness, which rests on a stratum of a black substance only a few inches in depth, beneath which again to the east side is a stratum of shells and sand, and to the west side a light blue mud washed by the sea. The two upper strata stretch along the cliff for a great length, but the third or black stratum only extends for about 300 yards, and it and the lowest can only be seen at low-water.

The upper surface of the first layer of the rock is rough and studded with the remains of shells, and is of a lighter colour than the other layers, which increase in darkness and thickness with their depth from the surface; the fracture of the rock is ragged and exhibits a mixture of white and grey with shining particles interspersed, and examined through a microscope of 400 magnifying power portions of shells are distinctly seen; these are easily seen in the upper layers without the use of the microscope, but in the lowest layers only with its aid; it is pulverisable and effervesces with acids. It is probably a composition of shells, earth, and sea-sand.

The black substance has not a uniform dark appearance, but presents a surface of black, grey, and white, not mingled together, but distinct, and consists of thin layers which do not adhere firmly and are distributed in the manner of slate stone. Its fracture is irregular and sloping, and it exhibits a number of little excavations as if fluid or air had been confined in them, but in other respects it has the same appearance as the surface; examined with the microscope, however bright, particles are distinctly seen; it does not burn, and is with difficulty heated in a furnace; it is dry to the touch, and almost pulverises between the fingers, on which it leaves no stain; acids and alkalis do not act upon it; with water it forms a dark solution without smell, but deposits again on standing; with a small quantity it becomes a substance resembling mud. In the specimens brought there are two kinds, which however do not differ materially from each other; the one accords pretty closely with the description given, the other has a considerable resemblance to charred wood, is in thicker pieces, less laminated, not so easily pulverised, and not so oblique in its fracture; but, on the contrary, cracks run through it both vertically and transversely, and it presents moreover some reddish streaks,—in all other respects however it has the same characters. This kind seems to have been obtained at the east end of the cliff, from the quantity of shells found adhering to its lower surface; and it perhaps may owe its greater compactness and solidity to the greater pressure exerted by the denser materials which lie above and below it, than can be exerted by the substratum of mud at the west end upon the specimens found there. Both are probably only condensed mud and vegetable

matter, with a small proportion of sand intermixed, and might perhaps be found a very good manure.

The light blue mud has considerable solidity, and a pretty uniform appearance; it mixes readily with water, but deposits on standing; it is neither acted upon by acids nor alkalies.

Large slabs of rock, measuring 20 feet by 15, similar to the rock described, were observed lying one above the other on the sea-beach beyond the cliff, and appear to have fallen from it by inroads made by the sea. The process of destruction is at the present time going on. The subjacent mud appears first to be washed away, then the black substance; and when the rock has become thus undermined for a considerable extent, its power of adhesion is overcome by its own weight, and the weight of the earth resting on it. Some of the large slabs lying on the sea-beach at the west point of the cliff have assumed a very peculiar arrangement. They are placed in a circle on end, one against the other, in the manner bricklayers usually arrange tiles on the ground, but appear as if they had received a push by which they recline a little upon each other, rather than stand vertically side by side; in the centre of the circle there was a large hole filled with sand. Rocks, of various sizes and shapes, but of much the same character as the rock of the cliffs, stood out of the sea at different distances—some of them have very broad summits and narrow bases, ready to topple over. On the mainland again beyond the cliffs there are several elevated places, having a perpendicular face towards the sea, exposing a rock precisely similar to that of the cliffs, affording evidence therefore that the land which the sea is now encroaching upon has, at a previous period, been recovered from it. The cliffs are covered with a variety of herbage, and large forest trees of great height and circumference are growing there luxuriantly; from these trees the natives extract dammer, manufacture torches, and bring them to this market for sale. There was also a plant of singular appearance found growing in abundance, but, as we have not seen it, we cannot give any account of it. The birds' nests, black and white, so much prized by the Chinese, are obtained from the cliffs, and these and the dammer give constant employment to a number of natives, and form a trade of some consideration. Capt. Congalton, we believe, at a spot two or three hundred yards inland of the cliff from which the specimens were taken, bored down 15 or 18 feet, when water was found; but he discovered no traces of either the rock or the black substance seen in the section of the cliff. He proceeded up a river called the Soonghy Gierbee for about 12 miles, but neither from the information obtained from natives, nor from his own observation, did he discover anything to lead him to believe that coal might be found in the neighbourhood. He visited Purlis, but was equally unsuccessful there. We hear that specimens of the rock &c. are to be sent to the Bengal Government.

The other cliff is of much greater extent, and its height is estimated at 800 feet. In one of the rocks there is a large cave to which the natives attach a great deal of superstition; they call it *Datu Putri*, and all prahus passing are brought opposite to the cave, into which the boatmen throw a large log of wood that good may betide them.—*Pinang Gazette*.

THE COCOANUT BEETLE.—Perhaps a few practical observations on this destructive pest and enemy to planters may not be unacceptable to your readers. From having suffered, through my own trees, from their voracious ravages, my attention was early directed to them, and I have sought out a little scientific information also about them, from a fine work on entomology. This insect then belongs to the order *Coleoptera Pentamera*, family of *Lamellicornes*, and section 3d *Xylophile*, from *Xulon*, wood, and *philos*, a lover, which indicates a proneness to bore or eat woody fibre. The species under consideration is called the *Oryctes Rhinoceros*, and it is one of a subdivision of the above-named section, which contains those genera in which the males are distinguished from the females by tubercles or

horn-like projections on the head or thorax, of which this insect furnishes an example. I have found its *larvæ* in decaying vegetable matter, and they are also very formidable insects or grubs, about three inches long, with large reddish heads. They evidently feed on *decaying* vegetable matters, but I fancy they have no objection to a nice young living cocoanut tree, which I *think* they will attack about the root. It is when the tree has made considerable progress, however, that the parent insect does most mischief. When they are from one to two years old, throwing out their graceful branches in quick succession with the greatest vigour, and promising in three or four years more to yield their ruddy fruit, our comparatively speaking *gigantic* enemy begins to exercise his *boring* propensities—(*Oructeer*, Greek for one who *digs* or bores)—and making his horn act as an auger, he soon penetrates the soft and yielding fibre of the young *tinnumpullé*, and, if not discovered in time, destroys the leading shoot or branch. Should he merely penetrate some little way in, the tree will not suffer materially, but will show a deep scar for some time, and when the leading branch comes forth, it is simply “*shorn* of its fair proportions;” but if he is permitted to continue his operations, which are an insufferable *bore* to the planter, the leading shoot is quite destroyed. I have not yet known a tree to *die* even from this severe treatment—there being in the crown and roots of this extraordinary tree an amazing vigour and vitality. There are few of us who have not been at some period of our existence *nearly* “*bored* to death,” but it is surprising how we recover, when the *bore*, or *borer*, is removed, or, in common parlance, “*cuts his stick*.” If therefore a gentleman or lady can thus be almost bored to death by a prosy visitor, or a long-story-telling friend, judge what the condition of the poor tender *cocoanut child* must be. The poor innocent remains completely flabbergasted, or disabled, by having suffered such a *punch* in its *head*, and, being deprived of its *leader*, cannot *make head* against such odds for some time. Three or four of the old leaves still remain upright, but tattered-looking, like warning flags displayed from a wreck; but by and bye, you see a side shoot, creeping, as it were, along the ground, working its way outwards from the still-living crown in a kind of *corkscrew* fashion, till gathering strength, it gradually rises into a perfectly new and curved stem, which in a few months grows to a goodly size, and in time will no doubt make as good a tree “*as e'er another*”—though it will have been thrown back at least a year, I should think. Whether this surprising revivifying power exists only in the soil of *Batticaloa* or not I will not positively advance, but if the trees on *your* side of the island die outright, then we are entitled to a *crow*; be this as it may, we are very well satisfied with our soil, which in most places, contains a large proportion of organic matter in a sandy soil, highly favourable to the growth of cocoanut trees. We have trees of not yet two years old, which are 12 feet or upwards in height, to the tip of the highest branches, and already forming stout and vigorous boles, without any manure, and the younger trees, of nine or ten months old, are thick in the stem, as well as tall for their age, and *dividing* their leaves with great vigour.

It is now time, after this little flourish, to come to the pith of my subject, viz. the *remedy* which we have adopted here, as well as elsewhere, I hope, against the destructive progress of the *Oryctes Rhinoceros*.—Several intelligent boys are provided each with an iron instrument, of about 1 foot long, with a sharp double-barbed point, and a ring-handle; they go about the plantation, looking narrowly about the trees, and when they perceive the hole in the tree which indicates that the enemy is at work, they thrust in the barbed instrument and pull him out *holus bolus*. Sometimes, he may only just have commenced, when his capture is more easily effected; but even should he have penetrated to the very heart of the tree, the deadly weapon does not fail in its errand, but brings the culprit out, impaled and writhing on its point. This is the only way we know of to check the ravages of the beetle—except destroying the *larvæ*. If any of your readers know of any better method, we Batticalensians will be glad to adopt it: if not, let them try our method.—*Colombo Observer*.

IMPROVED PLAN FOR POTTING SUGAR.—(As transmitted by C. Mac Rae to the Honourable John Croal, 24th May, 1830.)—The objects to be most desired in draining sugar, are to expel the molasses as quickly and as completely as possible, and at the same time to keep all the sugar in. The following plan will secure both of those objects, if properly carried into execution; it is adopted in England by all refiners, and is therefore, not theoretical, but practical:—

The general description of the plan may be given in a few words; it is to pot the sugar hot instead of cool, and to keep in the molasses for a time, instead of letting them run off.

The following are the particulars, viz.—Take any number, say six, refining moulds, which are earthen pots, capable of containing $1\frac{1}{2}$ cwt. of sugar, large at the top and small at the bottom, about half an inch diameter, and bound round with small hoops, to make them firm, and capable of resisting the weight of sugar. These moulds must be laid in a cistern or butt of water (covered quite over with the water) for twelve hours, or more if you please, but twelve hours are enough to saturate the pores. This cools the moulds, and prevents the liquor getting into the pores, which would make it much more difficult to turn the sugar out when it gets hard.

When they are taken out of the water, let them be examined, and if there are any cracks, fill them up with pipe-clay made about as thick as putty; then turn them upside down, that the water may run off for a few minutes; but remember they are not quite dry, and whilst they are thus turned down, tighten the hoops, by drawing them carefully towards the broader end, with the small instrument sent for that purpose; then stop the hole at the bottom. When the sugar is struck out from the teache into the cooler, stir it about for ten minutes (occasionally) to assist the granulation, at the end of which time, and while it is so hot you cannot put your finger into it, ladle it into a pail or copper vessel, and which should contain as much as a man can carry with ease to himself; then pour it into the moulds, making each mould about a quarter full; then begin again with the first mould, and go on to the last, making each half full; afterwards, make it three quarters full, and at length, finish by filling the moulds in succession. Care must be taken to fill them thus gradually, because it greatly assists to equalise the crystallisation of all the moulds—indeed it would be better to take six moulds rather than four, especially if you have two men employed in filling them. If the sugar is properly boiled, a crust of glossy appearance will soon form on the surface of the mould, and to assist the operation, the cooler the place the better; and by putting your finger into the sugar when it is cold, you will find it hard about two inches down. If this is the case, the sugar, at the end of twenty-four hours or sooner, will have granulated sufficiently to allow you to take out the stopping; but if the finger does not meet with any resistance at about two inches, you must conclude that the sugar was not sufficiently boiled, and you must let it stand twelve hours longer to recover grain.

When you have ascertained that the sugar is sufficiently granulated, which will be from twenty-four to thirty-four hours, you may take out the stopping, which must be well washed to serve again, and such is the firmness of crystallisation round the mould iron at the bottom, that the molasses will not run out at the hole; but in order to make them run, take out the iron skewer or pricker, force it about three inches into the hole quite straight, and instantly the molasses will spout out;—the draining is greatly assisted by heat, and the time it takes to drain will principally depend upon the temperature of the place; if it is 120 degrees of heat, and if the sugar has been properly boiled, it will be finished in three days; but if you can let it stand longer, it will be all the better.—When you think it is ready, turn out one of the moulds to try, and if there are more than three or four inches of dark colour at the tip or point, and the lump appears generally dry, you may consider it sufficiently drained; cut this tip off with a chopper, and be very careful to observe that the remainder is all of white colour, without any molasses;

if it is not, you may conclude it is not fit, and must put it into the mould again for a day or two; but if it is quite fit, put it into the hogsheads and break it up.

The tip of the dark colour is put into the cooler, broken up small, and melted in the next strike of liquor, and thus no part is lost; the tip does not require to be boiled again. When you find from examination of one mould that they are all ready for taking out, turn them down on the face or broad part for two or three hours previous to taking it out, and they will come out of the mould with more ease, and in general will fall out of themselves; this saves labour, and prevents breakage of the moulds. Cut off all the brown tips, and put them into the cooler as mentioned before, and put the free white sugar into the hogsheads, beating it small, and ramming it down. It will appear from this statement, that there is nothing complicated in this operation, and when practically tried, will be found simple and most efficacious.

The advantages are, first, the operation of draining, instead of taking three weeks, as by the old plan, requires only one week, and thus the crop is soon ready for shipment, which in many places is of the first importance. 2nd. None of the sugar is lost in draining, and only the teache vents itself. 3rd. The colour of the sugar is naturally improved, because the molasses are expelled. 4th. The strength of the sugar is much increased, because it is soon separated from the molasses; for the longer the sugar combines with the molasses, the weaker it gets. 5th. The grain of the sugar is much improved, because the crystals are more quickly formed, and become harder by potting hot, than by potting cold. 6th. The character of the sugar is much improved; when the buyer knows that a particular mark has no foot, he will give an additional price even on that account. 7th. The loss of drainage on board is saved, because there are no molasses to drain. 8th. The custom that now prevails, of potting on Sunday morning the sugar that is made on Saturday night, will now be obviated, because the sugar, by the same plan, is potted within ten minutes of its being made.

COMPARATIVE QUALITIES OF COFFEE.—The value of the coffee berry in the British markets is not a fictitious quality as some imagine, but is real, and depends—

1st. Upon the texture and form of the berry; 2nd. The colour; and 3rd. Flavour.

1st. The texture of the berry, and form, termed 'style' by the coffee-dealers, is so well defined and palpable to the initiated, that at one view they pronounce its value from 150s. downwards, according to the two other qualities, colour and flavour.

This great distinction in price, like the higher flavoured and priced wines, is admitted by the consumers, who are chiefly to be found among the manufacturers and artisans, particularly at Manchester, Birmingham, and other large manufacturing towns.

The dealer admits that these high-priced coffees pay them much better than low and ordinary, as they can admix a large proportion of chicory with the former without deteriorating the article, and which the inferior will not allow.

There is, besides, a peculiarity of flavour in the Demerara coffee, which the brokers and dealers call 'unclean,' 'unsound,' and which we in Demerara call 'rank' flavoured, and we find peculiar to the new coffee, so that those who have the option never drink coffee under one or two years old. Another term, or set of terms, depreciatory of Demerara coffee, is 'bricky,' 'earthy flavoured,' which means the same as the former. All the commoner and condemned qualities give out, on roasting, a dense vapour, with a strong rank smell; they open and swell, and lose more weight by six or eight per cent. than the fine qualities which have 'style.' These latter give out a transparent blue vapour, in very small quantities, and with a fine aroma, and retain the form of the berry.

The colour of the fine Jamaica is a delicate, even, pale green approaching to sea green, without any blue mottles, as is observed in Demerara coffee.

In roasting the inferior qualities, a number of white berries appear, instead of roasting brown. They have neither weight nor flavour.

A difference of £5 per cwt. between the best Jamaica and Demerara coffee, renders it worth while to inquire how this difference arises, and how it may be equalised.

Climate and atmosphere enter no doubt into the question, but soil, drainage, gathering only the full ripe berries, and the pulping before fermentation takes place, and the subsequent washing in frequent and running waters, to carry off fetid odour (which otherwise arises from the "coffee-water,") and may be reasonably supposed to impart some of its nauseous flavour to a substance so sensitive and ready to imbibe foreign flavour as the coffee berry, are more important. I have been assured that a coffee-planter in Venezuela, who has studied the subject, and closes his manufactory in order to retain his secret, has just doubled the value of his crop, by the mode of preparing and gathering it.

That deep tile drainage and subsoil ploughing between the coffee trees would ameliorate the quality of the fruit, I have no doubt.

The skill of the agricultural chemist also may do a great deal, in assimilating the soil (particularly in adding lime) to that of Jamaica.

The increased and growing demand for the higher qualities of coffee, and the infinitely more profitable returns derived in their growth, render such inquiries and practice an object of moment to the owners of coffee estates.

It would seem, that twenty acres cultivated and treated according to the foregoing considerations, would be finally less expensive to cultivate and yield a larger profit than one hundred acres treated as they are now, in culture and manufacture.

REVIEWS.

A History of New South Wales, from its Settlement to the Close of the Year 1844. By Thos. Henry Braim, Esq. 2 Vols. London: R. Bentley.

WE are somewhat disappointed in this work. Its title, and the responsible situation filled by the author, that of Principal of the Sydney College, led us to expect a work of a more original character, and not a mere condensed compilation from Government despatches, Parliamentary and Council papers, &c.

After a course of fifty years as a penal Colony, New South Wales is now ranked in the list of the free Dependencies of the Crown; and, besides the highly-curious and interesting field of research and narrative which its early history affords, it has now arrived at a point in its career which indicates the present as the fittest time for the composition of a work embracing its past history, its actual position, and its future prospects. But unfortunately Mr. Braim does not appear fitted for the task which he has undertaken, either by talent or experience. He has availed himself, it is true, of the writings of Dr. Lang, Mr. Arden, and others; and endeavours, according to his own showing, to incorporate the styles of Lang and Montgomery Martin. Lang, he tells us, is exceedingly meagre in his statistical details, and weak in his financial views, while Martin is replete with figures, but such as are often incorrect, and sometimes contradictory. But in avoiding the alleged faults and errors of these writers, Mr. Braim does not seem to have chalked out any improved plan for himself.

His first volume is a dry historical detail of the Governmental measures of the different rulers of the Colony, somewhat amplified in the case of the administrations of the two last Governors, Sir Richard Bourke and Sir George Gipps, which may serve as a school-book "for the perusal of the native youth," but will not be very interesting to the English reader. In the second volume there is more general information afforded; but, even here, there is little to commend, and too much straining after effect. The analysis of the proceedings of the Legislative Council is but condensed from the Council papers. The statistics in the second chapter are from the same source, and only reach to 1843, while we furnish in our present number all the similar returns of the Colony down to the end of 1844.

The chapter on the Aborigines is meagre, and, like the rest of the volume, drawn from borrowed sources. The description of Sydney and its environs forms the most readable portion of the work, and seems to be that where the author has drawn most on his own resources.

Notwithstanding the tenor of these remarks, we will endeavour to glean a few extracts.

We should not omit to state that the volumes are illustrated with some very neat woodcuts, and altogether the publisher seems to have done more for the book than the author.

DIVISION OF AUSTRALIA.

The Gulf of Carpentaria, lying just to the eastward of the northern cape, which we have described as one of the *termini* of the early Dutch surveys, was entered, explored, and named after himself, by a commander of the name of Carpenter. The name, therefore, which one-half the Island of Australia bears---that of New Holland, or, as it is written in the original Dutch, "Nieu Hollandt"---is justly and properly retained by modern hydrographers, whilst the remaining half is generally New South Wales, from the eastern coast having been so first designated by Captain Cook, to whose enterprise, and that of other English navigators, the eastern and southern coasts of Australia more particularly owe their discovery.

IMMORAL STATE OF THE CAPITAL.

Sydney now covers an area of more than two thousand acres, and contains a population probably of 20,000 souls. This population includes a great proportion of prisoners of the Crown of both sexes; persons whose passions are violent, and who have not been accustomed to control, and yet, for the most part, have no lawful means of gratifying them. It includes great numbers of incorrigibly bad characters, who, on obtaining their freedom, will not apply themselves to any honest mode of obtaining a living, but endeavour to support themselves in idleness and debauchery, by plunder, but who cannot be drawn from their haunts by the same process that vagabonds are disposed of at home. I believe it will be unnecessary for me to express my opinion, that there is more immorality in Sydney, than in any other English town of the same population in Her Majesty's dominions. It contains two hundred and nineteen public-houses; and there are so many places where spirits are sold without license, that I feel myself incompetent to guess at their number.

CLERGYMEN OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

The following is a list of the clergymen in the diocese of Australia, with their several districts:

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| Rev. W. Cowper, D.D., St. Philip, Sydney. | Rev. R. Allwood, B.A., St. James, Sydney. |
| " R. Cartwright, Burrowa. | " C. Woodward, B.C.L., Kelso. |
| " John Cross, Port Macquarie. | " J. Y. Wilson, Portland Bay. |
| " F. Wilkinson, A.M., Oaks. | " E. G. Pryce, B.A., Lower Hawkesbury. |
| " T. Hassall, Denbigh. | " W. W. Simpson, M.A., Penal Establishment, Paramatta. |
| " M. D. Meares, A.M., Wollongong. | " A. C. Thomson, Port Phillip. |
| " C. P. N. Wilton, A.M., Newcastle. | " G. Vidal, B.A., Sutton Forest. |
| " J. Vincent, Castlereagh. | " J. Elder, Chaplain to H. M. Gaol, Darlinghurst, Sydney. |
| " R. Forrest, Campbell Town. | " T. B. Naylor, B.A., Norfolk Island. |
| " H. T. Styles, Windsor. | " C. C. Kemp, Master of St. James's Grammar School, Sydney. |
| " G. K. Rusden, A.M., East Maitland. | " J. C. Grylls, Holy Trinity, Sydney. |
| " W. M. Cowper, A.M., Port Stephens. | " B. L. Watson, Penrith, and South Creek. |
| " T. Sharpe, Bathurst. | " W. Stone, A.B., Ashfield & Concord. |
| " H. H. Bobart, A.M., Parramatta. | " J. Edmonstone, Chap. Penal Establishments, Sydney. |
| " J. Gunther, Wellington Valley. | " J. Troughton, Prospect. |
| " G. A. Middleton, Morpeth. | " R. K. Sconce, A.B., St. Andrew, Sydney. |
| " W. Stack, A.B., West Maitland. | " T. W. Bodenham. |
| " G. N. Woodd, A.B., Bungonia. | " J. Gregor, A.M., Moreton Bay. |
| " W. Sowerby, Goulburn. | " W. Lisle, Yass. |
| " T. C. Makinson, B.A., Mulgoa. | " F. Cameron, Singleton. |
| " T. Steele, LL.D., Cook's River. | " J. M'Connell, Singleton. |
| " J. Duffus, M.A., Liverpool. | " J. Farrell, A.M., Adelaide, S. Australia. |
| " C. F. Brigstocke, Liverpool. | " J. B. Wittenom, Perth, Swan River. |
| " G. C. Turner, S.C.L., Hunter's Hill. | " J. R. Wollaston, Perth, Swan River. |
| " C. Rogers, Brisbane Water. | " W. Mitchell, Guilford, Swan River. |
| " H. D. D. Sparling, B.A., Appin. | " J. Allan, Braidwood, N. S. Wales. |
| " E. Smith, B.A., Queenbeyan. | |
| " W. B. Clarke, M.A., St. Leonard's, N. Shore. | |
| " R. T. Bolton, M.A., Hexham. | |
| " C. Spencer, M.A., Raymond Terrace. | |
| " J. Morse, M.A., Scone. | |
| " W. H. Walsh, St. Lawrence, Sydney. | |
| " J. J. Smith, Paterson. | |

RIVERS.

The proximity of the dividing range to the coast necessarily circumscribes the course of the rivers flowing to the eastward. Those best known, and of the greatest importance, are the Hawkesbury, the Hunter, the Clarence. and the Brisbane, collecting the waters of the eastern slope of the Blue Mountain range. The general character of these streams is, that in the upper part of their course they consist of mere mountain torrents, dry or forming water-holes during the summer season, and becoming converted into rapid streams during the rainy season. On attaining a lower level on the alluvial plains, they soon become blended with the reflex tidal current occasioned by the sea, and form brackish streams, flowing through lagoons of no great extent.

The waters, collected from the western slope of the mountains, form, however, rivers

which, from the length of their course, if not from their volume, may be compared with some of the more celebrated streams of the Old World. The Darling, taking its origin from a region within the tropics, flows through a distance of probably not less than two thousand miles before it reaches the ocean. Some of its tributaries, such as the Murrumbidgee, springing from a high level, flow with considerable rapidity; the main trunk of the river, from its soon reaching a low level, is, however, characterised by its slow and lethargic course, and the extensive marshes through which it winds its way to the sea are frequently subjected to wide-spreading inundations. The greater part of its banks appears to consist of an almost boundless extent of the richest alluvial plains. The Darling may be considered as the Mississippi of Australia. It will, like its American prototype, be one day the great theatre of industry and enterprise; and doubtless, also, like the river just named, mingle its blessings with the evils of pestilence---the most lavish gifts of nature, with the poisoned exhalations of the stagnant morass.

As the Darling collects and conveys all the waters of the south-eastern part of Australia (excepting the comparatively insignificant streams flowing from the eastern side of the coast range), the discovery of some large river, the vehicle of the waters flowing to the northward, remains still to be made. The enormous accumulation of fresh water in the Gulf of Carpentaria, and the actual discovery of some considerable streams flowing into it, clearly point it out as the estuary of some great body of fresh water. The character of the low land surrounding the Gulf of Carpentaria, together with the concomitant circumstance of its forming the embouchure of a large river, afford interesting grounds for speculation as to the aptitude of this region for settlement by man, and for the advantageous employment of human industry.

NEW SOUTH WALES AS AN EMIGRATION FIELD.

We can confidently recommend (particularly at the present moment) New South Wales as a most desirable sphere for the capitalist and man of fortune. The most inveterate croakers amongst us are now well convinced that our Colony must very soon emerge from the difficulties which are now pressing upon us; and when that is the case, a healthier state of things in relation to our monetary interests will doubtless be induced. At this moment, property of all kinds is sadly depreciated. Good cattle are to be had at from £2 to £2 10s., sheep at 5s. or 6s., and land is sold for a mere trifle. To any person with a small capital to embark, possessed of ordinary prudence and business habits, we have no hesitation in stating, that this Colony presents attractions seldom to be found. We believe that such a person would now require but a comparatively short time to double his capital. The arrival of some few such persons, possessing not only the desire to enrich themselves, but to benefit the land, would be no small advantage to us at the present juncture. Their arrival among us, and their careful and well-directed employment of their resources, would tend materially to hasten the period we have anticipated. To one such individual we are already indebted for a seasonable employment of labour, and we trust we shall not have to wait long before others appear among us to do the State some service. We assure them they will receive a safe and abundant reward for such public-spirited efforts.

CAPABILITIES OF THE COLONY.

Our new export of tallow promises to be as profitable as that of our staple commodity, wool. Our shipments have already produced high prices; and as we improve in the preparation of the article, and the mode of packing, &c., for exportation, we shall doubtless find it not only continue, but increase in value. The benefit of this export is found in at once fixing a minimum price on the stock of our settlers.* We shall no longer be obliged to trust to chance to decide the value of our flocks and herds; their least worth can now be computed, and hence the gambling, hap-hazard system of dealing which has before prevailed and wrought such mischievous consequences, will make way for a sound and healthy straightforwardness in all our money transactions.

Attention has also been paid to the manufacture of gelatine, and to the export of salted provisions; the latter of which has not yet, however, succeeded. We have also discovered, that for luxuries we need not travel further than our own land. From our own beautiful grapes, good wines are manufactured; from peaches (which are just now so abundant, that they are retailed at a farthing a dozen!) a good brandy has been

* Before the boiling-down system came into operation, we heard a rich man in Sydney state, in a most lugubrious tone, that he had been obliged to take in payment for a debt, ten thousand sheep, at Moreton Bay, at one shilling each. So little did he think of his bargain, that he put them in flocks of from ten to fifteen hundreds, and removed the ewes, to prevent the increase, and consequent addition to his expenses of management.

procured; and the tobacco which is grown, and is coming into very general use, promises to be equal to the American negrohead. Our Colonial tweeds are extensively used; and a pottery has lately been established at the Hunter's River. The wines we can make have the strong recommendation of being just adapted to our climate. The force of habit has contributed to vitiate our taste, and we are inclined to admire the alcoholic port and sherry brought to us from England (and sad stuff is generally imported under these names), rather than the generous and harmless lighter wines which our own vineyards can produce.

We can produce samples bearing a strong resemblance to good Sauterne, Barsac, Hock, Claret, &c.; and it merely requires a little more practical acquaintance with the arts of vinous fermentation, and abundance of cheap labour, to enable us to produce all, at least, that we ourselves require. Tropical fruits can be grown at Moreton Bay. The olive is peculiarly fitted to our soil, and so also is the mulberry, which would enable us to manufacture silk even in large quantities. This has, we know, been tried on a small scale, and been attended with complete success. Tea, likewise, would grow well, we have been led to understand, to the northward.

The opinion has been entertained, that this is fitted to be a pastoral country alone, and that we cannot hope to gain much advantage from our agriculture. We are learning to ridicule this idea as altogether unfounded.

Those valuable institutions, "Agricultural Associations," for the purpose of receiving and communicating information on all matters connected with the cultivation of the soil, are beginning to be formed among us. Such societies must be productive of good; they induce men to think on the matter who never troubled themselves to think before; they illustrate the principle that "union is strength," and by collating and condensing the information which each one possesses, render an essential service to the general prosperity.

They tend to give the practical man, be he even the commonest labourer, his proper standing; they teach him to regard himself, and others to regard him, as of some use---nay, of invaluable use, as only from the induction of facts such as these practical men can supply, we derive the important principles which are to guide us in all our movements. We see, then, in the establishment of these associations, a "token for good," as we are convinced nothing will tend more completely to lay open our country than the means which will be hence adopted. Already has our Floral and Horticultural Society, by the stimulus of periodical exhibitions and prizes, disclosed what we had scarcely known to exist among us, and it needs only a simultaneous and systematic effort on the part of all interested, to raise us to our proper standing as an extensively agricultural as well as pastoral country. This, however, will never be the case, until the plan of small farms is more generally adopted.

Enterprise in Tropical Australia. By G. Windsor Earl, M.R.A.S. &c.
London: Madden & Malcolm. pp. 177.

THIS is a work which we have received and perused with much pleasure, conveying as it does much valuable information about a part of the vast continent of Australia respecting which little is known. We had too formed a very high opinion of Mr. Earl's "enterprise" and powers of observation, both from the reports of his evidence before the Committee of the Legislative Council of Sydney, and also from the accounts of a relative, Lieut. Timpson, R.N., who, while in charge of the detachment at Port Essington, had opportunities of becoming acquainted with him; and we are therefore glad to find that he has determined upon giving the public the benefit of his great experience.

As Linguist to the North Australian Expedition, and Commissioner of Crown Lands for Port Essington, he has had opportunities for maturing and increasing the information which he had previously acquired.

In the first chapter, Mr. Earl introduces his subject by touching upon the expeditions of the Dutch to the Tropical Coasts of Australia, and notices the Melville Island and Raffles Bay Settlements.

To use his own words,

When we take under review the great extent of the Tropical Coasts of Australia, their peculiarly accessible nature, and the inexhaustible sources of labour that lie convenient, it certainly does appear singular that throughout so many thousand miles of seaboard only one little spot should be occupied by a civilised people, and that by a party so small as to constitute the most minute detached garrison maintained by the nation to which it belongs.

The next three chapters are devoted to a history of the founding and progress of the Settlement of Port Essington. Although as a mere military post or naval settlement it does not afford the scope for description which other newly-settled Colonies have done, yet the record of events—the chequered scenes of disaster and trouble, of happiness and pleasure, have the interest of romance rather than the sombre hue of reality about them.

The visits of the ships of war and merchant vessels on the station to the different Islands and Settlements in the neighbouring seas have resulted in a mass of information concerning countries hitherto little known, which cannot but be of importance whenever our nation shall make a movement in this part of the world.

Even if the colonisation of this port had resulted in no other object than the civilisation and instruction of the aborigines, it would not have been without its advantages; but other benefits have resulted, as will be seen from our author's remarks.

The state of the adjacent seas, with regard to the safety of merchant-ships that might traverse them, presented, indeed, a striking change. Previous to the occupation of Port Essington, every English vessel that had resorted to the islands lying between Timor and New Guinea had been attacked, and, when successfully, the crew massacred; so that the names of many of the larger islands were associated with outrages committed on our countrymen. The Essington schooner, the first vessel sent out to the islands, was only saved by an accidental occurrence; but no sooner had it become known that the British possessed a Settlement in the neighbourhood, (and this occurred within an exceedingly short space of time,) than these aggressions suddenly and totally ceased; and although the number of vessels resorting to these islands is far greater than it had ever previously been, no single act of hostility was ever again committed. Indeed, I speak advisedly when I say that small vessels may now traverse the adjacent seas with greater safety than they can coast the island of Java, the oldest established of the European Colonies in the Indian Archipelago. The western coasts of New Guinea were never visited by our merchant-ships for purposes of trade previous to our establishment in these seas; but an intercourse has now been opened which bids fair to become a thriving and profitable branch of commerce. The Timor Laut group, again, the nearest to Port Essington of the islands of the Indian Archipelago, was so notorious previous to our arrival, that even the native traders of the Eastern Islands dared not visit it. Vessel after vessel, whether English, Dutch, Chinese, or Macassar, was cut off and plundered; but the spirit of peace has now extended itself to this important group, and it has become a favourite resort for traders; an intercourse having been established with ports, especially in the southern part of Timor Laut, which were never before frequented. When it is taken into consideration that our manufactures form the bulk of the cargoes of all vessels resorting to these remote parts, whether European, Chinese, or Indian, the circumstances here detailed become interesting. The commerce of these Eastern Islands is little regarded by the mercantile community in this country, simply because its details are not known. The merchant loses sight of his goods after they reach Singapore, for even his consignee in that emporium of the further East has only a vague notion of what becomes of a large portion of them. He knows that they are carried away to the eastward by hundreds of small craft, which return in the course of time, laden with valuable produce, but of the particular countries from which it comes he does not often know even the names. I will, however, dismiss this subject at present, as I have more fully entered upon it in a work exclusively devoted to the commerce and resources of the Eastern Islands, which will appear in due course.

The fifth chapter is devoted to an elaborate account of the geographical features, soil, and natural productions of the Cobourg Peninsula, in which Port Essington is situate—from which we make the following extract:—

THE TREPANG, OR SEA SLUG.

But of all the marine productions, the trepang, or sea slug, from its constituting a valuable article of commerce, is most deserving of notice. In point of size and appearance it resembles a prickly cucumber, except that the colour is a whitish brown. I here allude to the most common description, for there are several varieties, one of which is perfectly black. The trepang is found in all the sheltered harbours, where it gropes about the bottom, and feeds upon weeds and mollusca. It is taken at low-water, upon the shoals or mud-banks, over which the fishermen wade knee-deep in water, dragging their boats after them, and when the feet come in contact with a

slug, it is picked up and thrown into the boat. They occasionally search in deeper water, when the fishermen avail themselves of the services of the natives, who are expert divers; or if they cannot obtain such assistance, they prick for them with barbed iron darts, provided with long bamboo handles. The process of curing is very simple. The slug, on being taken from the boat, is simmered over a fire in an iron cauldron for about half an hour, after which it is thrown out upon the ground, and the operation of opening commences, this being effected by a longitudinal cut along the back with a sharp knife. It is then again placed in the cauldron and boiled in salt water, with which a quantity of the bark of the mangrove has been mixed, for about three hours, when the outer skin will begin to peel off. It is now sufficiently boiled, and after the water has been drained off, the slugs are arranged in the drying-houses (small huts covered with mats) upon frames of split bamboo spread out immediately under the roof. Each slug is carefully placed with the part that has been cut open facing downwards, and a fire is made underneath, the smoke of which soon dries the trepang sufficiently to permit its being packed in bags or baskets for exportation. The entire process is a very simple operation, and the utensils required are far from being costly.

It is difficult to form an estimate as to the amount of trepang annually exported from the coast. From thirty to forty prahus, varying from twenty to seventy tons burthen, are employed in the fishery, the crews amounting to about twelve hundred men. They receive no wages, but are entitled to a certain portion of the profits of the voyage, the system being somewhat similar to that adopted in our whale-ships. The provisions and stores required for the voyage are advanced by Chinese or Dutch merchants at Macassar, who thus acquire a right to the entire proceeds at a certain price which has previously been fixed upon, and which is invariably much below the current value. Taking the average amount of trepang obtained by each prahu at twenty tons, this will give six hundred tons as the quantity annually exported from the coast. The value at Macassar is seventy rupees, or somewhat less than £7 sterling, for the picul of 133 lbs. avoirdupois. The price to the consumer in China is enhanced to the amount of about one-third.

The value of this commodity as an article of export to China has long been known to the people of New South Wales, and small vessels have been from time to time sent out from Sydney to collect trepang on the northern coasts, but the success met with appears not to have been sufficiently great to afford much encouragement; indeed, it is an employment for which European seamen are by no means well adapted.

The sixth chapter treats of the climate and seasons of this part of Australia. The following hints and rules may be found valuable to many:—

BEST SITUATIONS FOR NEW SETTLEMENTS.

In taking under review the circumstances of the various Settlements in these seas, it would appear that the most salubrious spots are those situated upon narrow straits. The banks of navigable rivers, above the reach of the salt water, hold the next rank. Open bays are by no means to be recommended; but land-locked harbours appear to be perfect repositories for all that can be injurious to the constitution.

The repeated failures that have attended the efforts of Europeans to form Settlements in this part of the world afford support to the above view of the case. A secure harbour has always been a point of the first consideration, and although this can often be obtained in a strait, which at the same time would prove most convenient for merchant shipping, still the superior facilities for defence presented by a harbour with a single entrance has proved too attractive to be overlooked. The English East India Company have twice attempted to establish themselves upon the Andaman Islands in the Bay of Bengal, at Port Cornwallis and at Port Chatham; but the Settlements were in both cases abandoned in consequence of the unhealthiness of the climate. More recently, the Dutch made a similar effort with the like result at Triton Bay, on the south-west coast of New Guinea, another land-locked harbour. It is singular that in the last instance the Settlement was about to be formed upon a narrow strait, near a spot which had been selected by the natives as the site for their principal village; but the intention was abandoned, chiefly on account of the strength of the tides. Indeed, the natives of these countries appear to form the best selections of spots adapted for occupation, although, as far as I could discover, even the more intelligent of the Indian islanders had established no fixed rules, but were rather guided in their choice by instinct than by conclusions drawn from a course of reasoning. All the principal European Settlements in the Archipelago were originally native towns, with the exception of Batavia, the capital of Java. This spot was selected on account of its being a favourable position for a fortress, and at a convenient distance from the native capital, which was situated some miles inland.

The above remarks are of course only applicable to places on the sea-coast, and even there other influences beyond those mentioned above are found to exist, especially in spots situated near the base of abrupt ranges of hills, where the deposit of decomposed vegetable matter is great. The Portuguese town of Dilli, on the north side of Timor, is rendered very unhealthy by its position upon a swampy plain of the richest alluvial soil, rank with tropical vegetation; while an amphitheatre of steep and high hills encloses it to landward, obstructing the course of the trade-wind, and thus preventing a proper circulation of air.

Mr. Earl then proceeds to take a general view of Tropical Australia, and its capabilities for producing articles of commerce. Cotton, sugar, and spices appear to succeed, but not coffee. Potatoes did not thrive, and the culture of wheat has not been tried.

The eighth chapter is devoted to the consideration of the sources from whence labour may be obtained for the Australian Continent:—

SOURCES OF LABOUR.

In Australia, where the aboriginal tribes are so barbarous as to depend entirely for subsistence on the spontaneous productions of nature, they have generally, after a few trials of strength, quietly submitted to the new order of affairs; and although the tribes in the neighbourhood of our Settlements are undoubtedly disappearing, still the process is not attended with sufficient violence to shock the feelings. If this apparently inevitable result can anywhere be effectually stayed, it is upon the northern coasts, where the aborigines have long held intercourse with a people not greatly superior to themselves; at all events, not presenting so hopeless a contrast to their own degraded state as that presented by the civilisation of the European. They have here made the first step towards an improved condition. They have acquired the rudiments of commerce, and although the cultivation of the soil has not yet been attempted, they have learned to collect the natural productions of the country, with the view of exchanging them for food of a superior quality to that which their own land affords. A considerable number have paid one or more visits to Macassar, residing there for months together, which has familiarised them with the language and manners of the people of that country, and may probably lead to a closer intercourse, should the Macassars establish themselves upon the coast. The presence of Europeans has here been decidedly beneficial to the aborigines, by putting a stop to the contests which frequently took place between them and the Macassars, before they had a third party to refer to for the settlement of their disputes, and which were often attended with fatal results to both parties.

If it were found desirable to carry on agricultural operations on the northern coasts of Australia, no difficulty would be experienced in obtaining any amount of cheap and effective labour from the neighbouring islands of the Indian Archipelago, or from the continent of Asia. The only point upon which any difference of opinion is likely to exist is with regard to the particular people that it would be most advantageous to employ. And as this is a subject to which, from its importance, a considerable degree of attention was directed by the authorities of Port Essington, I will give the result of the inquiries that were set on foot to ascertain the sources whence labour might be derived in the event of these parts being thrown open for settlement.

To commence with the chain of islands extending from Timor to New Guinea, which from its contiguity to Port Essington deserves the first notice. This group is inhabited by a branch of the Polynesian race, the natives bearing a great resemblance in personal appearance, language, and customs to those of the South Sea Islands. We found a considerable difference to exist with regard to the social state of the natives of the various islands. Those among whom Christianity has made much progress proved mild in their manners, industrious (for excess of population obliges them to be so), and skilful in the rougher mechanical arts. Others again who had held little intercourse with strangers were bold and warlike, but they cultivated the soil, and dwelt in neat and well-built villages. The natives of Timor Laut, the nearest island to Port Essington, being distant only one hundred and eighty miles, are of the latter class. The population is considerable, but constant wars between the different tribes prevent it from becoming excessive. Still emigration takes place to a certain extent. At the Dutch Settlement of Banda we found about three hundred natives of this island, many of whom were employed as police peons, or as servants to the inhabitants, the remainder occupying themselves in cutting fire-wood and in growing vegetables to supply the market. The influx of these people was so great a few years ago, that the Government thought proper to stop further migration. They generally return to their own country after having acquired a little property.

The Ki Islands, which lie to the north of Timor Laut, are well peopled; but the inhabitants, when not employed in agriculture, find abundant employment in constructing prahus and boats from the magnificent timber with which the inland parts are covered. They are, indeed, a nation of carpenters, and the greater portion of the vessels employed in the trade of this part of the Archipelago are constructed by them. Their boats are perfect models of beauty and speed, and many have been brought to Port Essington, where they are highly prized. At the Arru Islands, again, the natives are almost exclusively occupied in collecting the valuable natural products, which attract European, Chinese, and native traders from various parts of the Archipelago.

But of all the islands of the group, those in which Christianity has made considerable progress present the most available sources of labour. The comparative civilisation that exists has caused a cessation of the wars that formerly kept down their numbers, and the population has, in several instances, increased to an extent that renders the country they inhabit insufficient to afford them supplies of food; while at the same time they have become familiarised with Europeans, and are glad to engage themselves in their service. The island of Kissa, which has been alluded to in the previous part of this work, is much overpeopled. When first visited by us, the security of property that resulted from their superior organisation had caused their island to become the chief resort of the foreign traders, and thus the emporium for the commerce of the neighbouring islands; but subsequently, when it became safe for traders to visit the groups that had not previously been frequented, their commerce declined, and they no longer had the means of purchasing food from the neighbouring countries.

On revisiting Kissa in Her Majesty's ship *Britomart* in 1842, after an absence of two years, we found that owing to this circumstance, coupled with a visitation from one of the periodical droughts to which the island is subject, so great a scarcity of food existed, that no less than three hundred of the inhabitants had perished, either from absolute starvation, or from disease induced by the necessity for resorting to descriptions of food that were not suitable to man. Many of the natives had left the island in their prahus, and were wandering among the neighbouring Settlements, seeking subsistence.

Rotti, near the south end of Timor, is also much overpeopled, the number of inhabitants being above twenty thousand, (the Dutch authorities give a much larger number,) and so great a scarcity of food exists, that the poorer people are forced, during several months of the year, to subsist chiefly on a liquid sugar extracted from the palm-trees which overspread those parts of the island that are too rocky to admit of cultivation. The Dutch Settlement at Coepang is the only spot to which they can at present resort for employment, and here they form the bulk of the labouring population, the aborigines of Coepang being by no means an industrious people. Amboyna, Kissa, and Rotti are the head-quarters of Christianity in the Indian Archipelago; and as the natives are an intelligent people, and much attached to Europeans, I look upon them as being likely to prove highly useful to any future Settlement that may be made on the northern coasts of Australia. They acquire the English language with considerable facility, and many are sufficiently educated to read and write Malayan in the Roman character. Their services would, therefore, probably be found valuable as interpreters, in the event of an increased intercourse taking place between the inhabitants of the Archipelago and Europeans. It is singular enough, that in these remote islands I found a far greater number of natives who had a sufficient acquaintance with our language for the common purposes of trade, than in the western parts of the Archipelago, even about our own Settlements. There, however, the Europeans generally speak Malayan, while our countrymen who resort to this part of the Archipelago, chiefly whalers, or traders from Sydney, are rarely acquainted with the language.

The great island of Timor is very populous, but the slave-trade exists here, especially about the northern Settlements; and although the number exported is not very great, still I look upon it as being unfavourable to spontaneous emigration.

The island of Celebes deserves particular notice from the circumstance of the inhabitants being already well acquainted with the northern coasts of Australia. Their spirit of enterprise has, indeed, carried them into the remotest corners of these seas, and communities, amounting in some instances to several thousands of people, are established in every European Settlement in the Indian Archipelago: in addition to which, they have many independent Colonies on the coasts of Borneo, Sumbawa, and Flores. They are generally, however, more given to commerce than to agriculture, but about Macassar the country population is very considerable. They are industrious, and much attached to the British; still I do not regard them as being quite so well adapted for a European Settlement as the people previously mentioned, from the circumstance of their being Mahomedans, and therefore considerably under the influence of the degenerate Arabs; less so, however, than the Malays or Javanese.

The mixed descendants of the Dutch at Macassar are an enterprising race, possessing the commercial spirit of their Asiatic forefathers, guided by the superior intelligence of the European.

Mr. Earl next treats of the Settlements in Tropical Australia as connected with the interests of the Southern Colonies, and traces the progress of Colonisation in New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land, and Southern and Western Australia. His observations are candid and honest, and such as may be pondered over with advantage. As a whole, his work is one of considerable research—the offspring of a discerning mind, and fully proves him to be a most shrewd and impartial observer.

We are glad to find that it is but the *avant-courier* of a more extensive work, taking a general view of the fields of commerce in the islands and countries of Eastern Asia, which is announced for early publication, and which will embody the experience and results of his many voyages and expeditions to the islands and Settlements of the Indian Archipelago. We should not omit to mention that the present work is illustrated with two corrected maps—one of Australia, and the other of the Indian Archipelago and the Cobourg Peninsula.

Clairbois' Elements of Naval Architecture. By Capt. Strange.

London: J. R. Smith. pp. 45.

THIS is a translation of a portion of M. Vial de Clairbois' elementary treatise on the construction of vessels, being that portion which treats of the theory of Naval Architecture. It is a subject which we do not profess to be conversant with, and therefore we are compelled to dismiss thus briefly.

Murray's Home and Colonial Library, Nos. 28 and 29, Borrow's Gypsies in Spain. London: J. Murray.

MR. MURRAY continues to usher forth, in this cheap and standard library edition, all the best works which have emanated from his house, at a vastly reduced price on their original cost. We can only hope that his labours are appreciated far and wide, by a circulation commensurate to his enterprise, as the pioneer of cheap Colonial literature for the scattered population of our distant Dependencies.

COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

INDIA.

The intelligence from the different Presidencies by the last two mails is very unimportant; and, after a careful scrutiny of our numerous files of papers, we can find very little information of sufficient general interest to publish in our pages.

We are, says the *Englishman*, in a state of most unenviable tranquillity, which may perhaps leave our Government leisure to attend to those internal improvements so much required, and which, if carried out as they ought to be, would soon double the wealth of this country, and increase its commerce with Great Britain in the same proportion.

There is a projected Calcutta University, and we ought also to state that a College is about to be founded at Nuddcāh, the centre of Brahminical learning in Bengal.

The news from the north-west is of a portentous character. The Seikhs have assumed a threatening attitude on the banks of the Sutlej, and have expressed their determination to cross the river. Active preparations are being made for their reception.

At Bombay there has been an extensive conflagration, attended by the loss of several lives, and property to the amount of seven lacks of rupees; the damage done might, however, have been much more serious, as in one of the houses which was on fire there was stored as much as 4,000 lbs. of gunpowder, which was removed by the brave seamen of the port.

A railway has, we see, been started to connect the Presidencies of Bombay and Madras. Such an undertaking, if carried out under proper management, would prove eminently useful.

Steam Statistics of the Bengal Presidency.—The progress which has been made in the introduction of steam power at this Presidency cannot fail to

be an object of interest to all those who are desirous of seeing the application of European skill, enterprise, and capital to the development of the natural resources of the country. We shall, therefore, offer no apology for the publication of the following statement of the number of steam engines now employed in the various departments of industry, and their aggregate horse-power. It has been drawn up with considerable labour, and though, in particular cases, it may be somewhat deficient in accuracy from the difficulty of procuring information regarding private establishments, yet we can present it with a feeling of perfect confidence in its substantial correctness. For the sake of clearness, we have given as far as could be ascertained the particular objects to which the steam engines are at present applied.

SUGAR FACTORIES.

	En- gines.	Horse Power.
Shajehanpore	1	10
Hetumore	1	8
Peroona	1	10
Beahmpore	2	20
Tirhoot, Association	6	80
" " Nowel	3	30
Hurrah	1	10
	15	168

SUGAR REFINERIES.

Dhoba	1	10
Santipore	1	10
Barnagore	1	3
Baloo Khul	1	20
Gooseree	3	24
Cossipore	2	14
Sechpore	1	10
Dacca	1	10
Cowgatchy	1	14
Chundpore and Tremohun	2	8
	14	123

DOCKS.

Docking Company	3	48
Reeves's	2	16
Ryged's	1	10
Mackenzie's	1	25
Kidderpore	1	12
	8	111

COLLIERIES.

Raneegunge	6	60
Mahmudpore	1	6
Rogounath Chuk,	1	14
	8	80

En- Horse
gines. Power.

FLOUR AND RICE MILLS.	
Cossipore	1 40
Chitpore	1 10
Strand, Calcutta	2 60
Sealdah	1 8
Howrah	1 40
	<hr/> 6 158

PAPER MANUFACTORIES.	
Serampore	3 34
Cossipore	1 12

MISCELLANEOUS.	
Gloster Mills	4 128
Strand, Jessup	1 10
Two Smaller Engines	2 8
Chandpal Ghat Water-works	1 20
Kidderpore, Teil and Co.	1 14
Gordah	20 20
Jessore, Tweedie	6 6
Purneah, Cruize	10 10
Kidderpore Steam Tug Ass.	8 8
Howrah, Homfray	8 8
„ Calder	6 6
	<hr/> 15

STEAMERS.	
Hindoostan, Bentinck, & Precursor	6 1560
India	2 240
Fire Queen	2 180
Inland Steam Navigation, Govern- ment	20 670
Sea Steamers, Government	20 *1030
Tugs.—Tug Company	8 520
„ Hooghly Company	4 200
„ Bates, Fielden, and Co. ...	2 220
„ Bancan	1 50
„ Satellite	1 90
„ Coal Company	1 12
„ Assam Company	2 100
„ Pleasure Boats	4 22
	<hr/> 73 4894

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS.	
Mint	5 138
Steam Bridge Establishment	1 10
Cossipore Gun Foundry	2 20
	<hr/> 168

STEAMERS BUILDING.	
Captain Hyde's Vessels	4 100
Union Company's Vessels	4 270
	<hr/> 870

SUGAR FACTORIES IN PROGRESS.	
Potter and Company	1 10
Crawford	1 20
Neville	1 20
Dr. Belg	1 20
	<hr/> 70

SUMMARY.	
Sugar Works and Refineries	29 291
Docks	8 111
Collieries	8 40
Flour and Rice Mills	6 158
Paper Manufactories	4 46
Miscellaneous	15 238
Government Departments	8 168
Sea Steamers	20 1030
Inland Steamers	22 770
Packets	10 1080
Tugs and Pleasure Boats	21 1114

From this statement it would appear that there are in active employment in this Presidency no fewer than One Hundred and Fifty-one steam engines of nearly Six Thousand horse power. We believe that those who are not ignorant of the great impulse which has been given within the last seven or eight years to the introduction of steam power, will yet learn with considerable surprise the extent to which it has been carried, and the vast amount of capital which has been embarked in it. It is generally supposed that the first steam engine ever set to work at this Presidency was that which the Serampore missionaries introduced in the year 1820 for the manufacture of paper, which then sold a hundred and fifty per cent. beyond the price which it now realises in the market. There is a tradition that two years before that event, Mr. Matthew Smith employed a small engine of two-horse power in his dockyards, but, like all tradition, lay or ecclesiastical, it is involved in extreme uncertainty. Between the years '20 and '37, our researches enable us to trace the introduction of 65 steam engines of 1,800 horse power, namely, 35 of 574 horse power by private individuals, and 30 of 1,258 horse power by Government. It is, however, during the last seven years, since the liberty granted to Europeans to hold lands in India has come effectually into operation, that the extraordinary increase of steam power, as applied to agricultural improvements, has taken place. During this period the number of steam engines introduced into the country by private individuals and public associations, as well as by Government, amount to 97, and their aggregate horse power to 4,700. Neither has the increase of steam machinery reached its height. The introduction of new engines continues without diminution. Every year, and almost every month, exhibits the establishment of new factories, and new attempts are constantly in progress to apply this power to fresh branches of labour. We are yet only in the infancy of steam in this country; and we feel certain that the statistics which may be pub-

* In this number are included the sea steamers of this establishment, though temporarily employed at the other Presidencies, or elsewhere.

lished at the close of another seven years, when compared with those we have now collected, will create far greater surprise.

On the subject of fuel, we may observe that the quantity of coal brought down from what are erroneously called the Burdwan Collieries, during the present season, has amounted to 72,000 tons, or about 20 lakhs of maunds, and that such is the rapid increase of steam engines, that even this supply is by no means adequate to the demand. Then, it must be remembered that the numerous sugar works with which British enterprise is now studding the Upper Provinces are rapidly consuming the supply of wood which is now available; that the country must at no very distant period become as bare of trees as ever Scotland was in the days of Johnson, and that the continuance of manufactures in the Agra Presidency must soon come to depend on the chance of obtaining coal from the Lower Provinces by means of the rail, unless beds of coal in accessible localities be intermediately discovered in the more immediate neighbourhood of these sugar factories.

—*Friend of India.*

CEYLON.—It has been a matter of surprise to many in this country that Sir Emerson Tennent should quit an appointment of great distinction at the Board of Control, with £1,500 a year, to accept an office in this land of exile of £2,000 annually, as Secretary to the Government of Ceylon. Some have accounted for this singular choice, by the consideration that the post in Cannon Row was contingent on the continuance of Sir Robert Peel's Ministry, which his own liberal views render increasingly problematical, and that a situation in the Colonies, liable to no such contingency, was considered more desirable. Others have supposed that Sir Emerson must have a dormant commission of Governor in his pocket, which the departure of the present incumbent would bring into effect. One of the numbers of the *Britannia* however, which has reached us by the last mail, explains this mystery in a manner which appears very satisfactory. It states that "Sir Emerson Tennent is

now going, as Her Majesty's Commissioner, to superintend the establishment of the new commission in Ceylon." We can now comprehend the reason why an individual of high standing, and of higher prospects, in the ministerial circle, should have accepted an office apparently so inferior in dignity as that of Chief Secretary at Ceylon. He has been selected, as we learn, by Lord Stanley to preside over the reorganisation of the administrative service in the only Colony the Crown possesses in India. His functions, though officially subordinate, are in reality of the most important and dignified character. Having acquired great experience of the machinery of Indian Governments at the Board of Control, he has been deemed the fittest instrument to superintend the experiment of the Colonial Office in the matter of its own Indian administration.

It is impossible to regard the successive measures adopted by Her Majesty's Ministers in the Island of Ceylon, in which they are now testing their own system of government, without being strongly reminded of the fact that the Parliamentary arrangements which committed this Empire to the management of the East India Company will terminate in a few years, and that the question of its future government will then be opened to examination. Ceylon is essentially a part and parcel of India. Native society in that island is distinguished by the same characteristics as in the other portions of this Eastern dominion. The people of the island do not differ in their habits and feelings, their religious and social institutions, and their idiosyncracies, from the people in the adjoining peninsula, in a greater degree than the inhabitants of the Madras Presidency differ from those of Agra and Delhi. There is nothing so peculiar in the condition of Ceylon and its population which should make it anomalous to transplant to other portions of India, with some modifications, the same arrangement of civil polity which had been found successful there.

In that island the Ministers of the Crown are now trying the experiment

of a civil administration as different in its character from that which the East India Company have established in their own territories, as the element of control and government differs in the one case from that of the other. The control of the Island of Ceylon is vested in the stipendiary Ministers of the Crown, and not in a large elected body who are paid by the patronage of nominations. Its Civil Service is not limited to those who have received the supposed benefit of matriculation in an exclusive college, but is drawn generally from those institutions which furnish the mother-country with her supply of Barristers and Judges, Clergy and Bishops, Parliament men and Cabinet Ministers. The service is not one dependent on the exclusive nomination of a Board of Directors; there is no impassable gulf between a covenanted and uncovenanted service. Men who have worked their way to distinction in public employ in the island, are placed on a par with the nominees of the Colonial Office. Above all, the various functionaries of Government are obliged to work for inferior pay, and with lower prospects. The Civil Service of the Crown in the island has recently been remodelled, the allowances have been recast, and all private trade has been forbidden. This change is quite as momentous as that which the Court of Directors introduced into the Government of India, when they sent out the covenants against private traffic for signature. Sir E. Tennent has been deputed, if the *Britannia* is rightly informed, to superintend these modifications of the Government, and to report on them to the Ministry at home. It is impossible therefore to dismiss from the mind the impression, that if this scheme of administration should be found to answer for the Island of Ceylon; if it should succeed in conferring on the inhabitants all the blessings of a good Government, adequate security of property and liberty, the cheap and easy redress of injuries, and speedy justice; a strong disposition will be created in the minds of public men on the renewal of the East India Charter, to break up the costly and cumbrous machinery of

administration established in connexion with the East India Company, in which the principle of patronage too often nullifies and always interferes with the fundamental objects of Government, and to bring the successful experiment of Ceylon to bear on the future management of India.—*Ibid.*

SINGAPORE.—From this Settlement our dates are to the 9th December, from which we are enabled to glean a few items.

We understand that our indefatigable Governor has given orders for the erection of two fountains on the ground adjoining the New Assembly Rooms, which will be a great boon to the public. The water from these springs is said to be the sweetest yet found on the island. We also understand that the whole of the swamp, generally known as Campong Malacca, is to be filled up and converted into building lots. A canal has already been cut, and a very substantial bridge erected which does credit to the Superintendent of Roads.

It is rumoured that a Company is shortly to be formed at Singapore, the object of which will be the construction of a dry dock there. There exists considerable facilities for such an undertaking, and there is no doubt that it would be highly profitable, from the number of vessels which would come here to refit, as well as from the increasing importance of Singapore as a steam station, now surpassing any other port in India in the number and size of steamers arriving and departing monthly.

The favourable reception given to the presents and letter from the Governor-General of India to the King of Cochin-China, forwarded by the H. C. Steam vessel *Phlegathon*, seems to mark a considerable change in the bearing of His Cochin-Chinese Majesty towards Europeans, from what used to be the case in former times. This has no doubt been in considerable part effected by the lesson read to all the Indo-Chinese Sovereigns (the *quasi* vassals of the Celestial Monarch) by the events of the Chinese war,—and also by the increased intercourse be-

between
 arising out of the visits of several Mandarins to that place, and the education of young Cochin-Chinese at the Raffles Institution there, who are employed on their return to their country as interpreters, navigators of the King's ships, &c.

Bugis Trade.—The following table exhibits the number of boats that have arrived this season.

From Whence.	No. of Boats.	No. of Tons.	Crew and Passengers.
Bugis.....	39	1749	2501
Macassar	50	1932	1355
Mandar	19	494	427
Kiely	13	556	658
Ceram	3	320	111
Bantian	1	25	90
Total.....	127	5076	5085

The principal articles of cargo imported consisted of—Malayan piece goods, 8,118 corges; Coffee, 9,938 piculs; Rice, 6,360 piculs; Beche de Mer, 6,763 piculs; Tortoiseshell, 81 piculs and 25 catties; Dutch Doits to the value of Drs. 13,180; Specie, Drs. 37,110; Mother o'Pearl Shell, 1,548 piculs; Sandal Wood, 488 piculs; Wild Nutmegs, 1,197 piculs; Seaweed, 1,363 piculs; Gold Dust, 1,710 buncals; Rattans, 42,700 bundles; Bees' Wax, &c. &c.

The principal items of the cargoes from Bugis consist of Coffee, Sarongs, and a little Tortoiseshell.—From Macassar, of Tortoiseshell, Beche de Mer, Mother o'Pearl Shell, and Wild Nutmegs.—From Mandar, of Coffee, Sarongs, and Rattans.—From Kiely, of Gold Dust, Tortoiseshell, and Bees' Wax.—From Ceram, of Tortoiseshell, Seaweed, Beche de Mer, and Wild Nutmegs.

Besides these more important articles, the prahus bring Rice, Sandal Wood, Edible Birds' Nests, Mats, Buffalo Hides, Tamarinds, Green Peas, Jagery, Birds of Paradise, and various other commodities of less value.

A very general importation by these prahus consists of the different varieties of the Parrot tribe, which at this season are seen suspended in great numbers in the verandahs in town,

where the traders resort, and which deafen the passer-by with their hideous shrieks.

The prahus which have arrived this year exceed those of last season in number and tonnage, and in amount of imports. They have generally, we believe, driven a good trade, selling their goods to much advantage, and purchasing their return cargoes on more favourable terms than they usually do.—*Free Press.*

PINANG.—The *Pinang Gazette* of 14th November states that the *Meleagrina*, or pearl oyster, has been found during the spring tides, on a mudbank, and also on a sandbank, in the channel between Pinang and the mainland.

The *Gazette* of the 22nd reports that several estates have lately been purchased in Province Wellesley for sugar cultivation, that several applications have been given in to Government for others, and that one estate purchased some time ago has begun to be worked.

The Government lands are sold at five rupees per acre, for jungle; but for an estate of 230 orlongs, on which there were 80 orlongs of cleared ground, 30 of which were planted with sugar, 6,000 dollars were given.

Province Wellesley Lands.—Since we last adverted to the sugar cultivation of the Province, we have heard of other pieces of land having been bought from Government for that purpose, which we believe are situated somewhere near to the Soonghy Junjong. Other applications have more recently been made, and we learn that these have become so teasing and incessant, that it has been thought necessary to demand the purchase-money down, before the applicant can be granted a preference or promise of the piece of land he applies for. The extraordinary part of this is, that while the demand is made imperative, the titles or grants of the land are not ready to be handed over to the purchaser, which are left over to be prepared and executed at some indefinite period; nor has the land even been surveyed or measured out. We have heard many and loud complaints on this subject, and we think with much reason.

HONG KONG.

Our dates are to the 29th November. In China, the three chief subjects of importance, are trade, climate, and Colonial politics. In the first there is some slight improvement. The second is good, the winter having fairly set in. We regret, however, to notice the mortality among the detachment of the 18th Royal Irish, stationed at Chuchew. The third—colonial politics—have not improved, and fortunately they cannot be much worse.

The death of Mr. Lay, H. M. Consul at Amoy, will be the cause of much regret to his friends in Europe, as it has been to those in China. Mr. Lay was an accomplished scholar, intimately acquainted with several branches of science, and of a very amiable disposition. It is doubtful whether he was suited for an active life, his mind being of that peculiar cast which would rather struggle with the difficulties of science than engage in the more simple affairs of every-day life.

Keying, the well-known Chinese Diplomatist, now Governor-General of Canton, arrived in H. M. steam vessel "Vixen," on the 20th. His Excellency was hospitably entertained by Sir John Davis, Rear Admiral Sir Thomas Cochrane, and Major-General D'Aguilar. He also gave a grand entertainment to the officials in a temporary residence, the house of the Messrs. Rustonjee, which had been fitted up for himself and suite. We have not heard that the visit was a diplomatic one, and from the way in which His Excellency's time was occupied during the five days he was in the Colony, we would say it was not, though we can scarcely imagine his coming to Hong-Kong for the mere sake of visiting. We hear that all the parties got up on the occasion will be paid for out of the public purse.

Keying was accompanied by several inferior Mandarins, and a large train of followers, a sight of whom for ever destroys all preconceived ideas of Eastern magnificence, for a more shabby-looking set it would be even difficult to imagine as forming the household

of a man of high rank. Falstaff's men were gentlemen in comparison. His Excellency had his executioners with him, though we have not heard that they chopped off any heads, or administered the bastinado to any of Queen Victoria's subjects, during their sojourn on the island.

AUSTRALIA.

NEW SOUTH WALES.—We understand that the Committee of the British Association for the Promotion of Science has sent Mr. McCombie, the Editor of the *Gazette*, a list of queries about the Australian Aborigines.

"Jackey Jackey, the Bushranger," from the *Australian Sketches* published in this Magazine, has been dramatised in the Colony.

SYDNEY.—The Sydney papers contain no news of importance, with the exception of the reports of the Legislative Council proceedings. The following summary is taken from the *Australian* :—

The Colonial Secretary's explanation of the Government policy with respect to Crown Lands was received with deep attention by the house, and we are happy to say, it breathes good promises of the fulfilment of the public professions of the opening of the Session. The honourable gentleman stated, in the outset, that the promulgation of any permanent regulations of Crown Lands would be deferred until the reply of Her Majesty to the address of the council had been received.

There is, therefore, now no longer any doubt as to the course of the Government on this all-important question. Lord Stanley will certainly carry out Sir George's views.

1. As to the quantity of land to constitute a homestead, he is not determined; but if any material diminution of the quantity be fixed by the Home Government, he will propose the expense of the survey to be borne by the purchaser.

2. As to the nature of the occupancy of the station, his view is that an eight-years' occupancy should be given of enough land to graze 4,000 sheep,

which eight-years' occupancy shall be converted into a lease, by an alteration of the Land Sales Act.

3. As to duration, he proposes that an occupier shall have four years from the 1st July last to purchase his homestead or to decline, thus giving him twelve years of occupation of the whole station.

4. Application of the funds. The money derived from the sale of land is to be applied under Lord Stanley's Land Sales Act; but the annual revenue from the Crown Lands will be applied, under the direction of the Lords of the Treasury, for the use of the Colony—it being understood that it is intended to form a fund for the purpose of emigration.

5. With respect to pre-emption. The Governor is still of opinion, that the right of pre-emption would involve the local executive, at no distant date, in great difficulties; but considering how ardently it is desired and approved by many persons of influence, both in the Colony and at home, Sir George Gipps, so long ago as September last, informed the Secretary of State that he would withdraw his objections. His Excellency thinks that the right will tend to promote land gambling speculations, and to embarrass the Survey Department with great arrears of business. He would, therefore, concede only on deference to others, not wishing to be the only man in the Colony opposed to it; and though he would not recommend, he would acquiesce.

Among the matters of future business, we remark that the Collector of Customs has given notice to move for leave to bring in a Bill for the better regulation of Customs; and Mr. Robinson, for an Address, praying His Excellency to place on the Estimates a sum of £1,000, for the purpose of establishing an overland communication to Port Essington.

MAURITIUS.

THE late debates which the Registration duty gave rise to, reminds us of another tax more arbitrary and more exorbitant, that had its origin in a

period of embarrassment and misery, and which ought to be modified in accordance to the times and circumstances. But, up to the present time,* there has been no question of these modifications so essential to the public, and so obligatory on the part of the Government, who carefully avoid touching anything that does "the general coffers fill," notwithstanding it is the clearest produce of our labour. It is time to make some diminution on the stamp duty, and we sincerely hope that the same majority that voted for a reduction of the Registration duty will vote also for a revision and reduction on that which weighs so heavy on the Press. We have as much right as any one to complain of the stamp duty; "our wethers are not unwrung," we feel its effects too directly and too frequently. Daily it takes of the clearest of our profits, hardly leaving us sufficient to pay the heavy expenses which an undertaking like a public journal incurs. Our readers are aware that for many reasons which they are well acquainted with, the subscribers of a local journal rarely exceed 600, which at 4 dolrs. per 3 months leave 800 dolrs. per month. Add to this sum 300 dolrs. for advertisements, making 1,100 dolrs. per month for a newspaper in full activity. Out of this sum the first to be paid is the Government for stamps on 600 sheets of paper thirteen times per month:— 90 dolrs.

Half of the sum received	
for advertisements	. 150 „
●	
Total	240

The Treasury therefore pockets one-fourth of the revenue. What remains for the proprietor after the expense of paper, printing, editing, compiling, rent of establishment, &c., all heavy expenses in this island? In the words of La Fontaine, "I.e sac et les quilles;"—that is to say, the balance in hand consists of a certain quantity of bad debts, or so doubtful that ten years may elapse before they are paid; and which is carried to the left side of profit and loss. Certainly the laudable exertions of those who devote their time and their indus-

try to the Press, merit the encouragement of all, but especially of the Government; for the experience of past ages teaches us, that where no free Press exists there cannot exist good government. By means of the Press questions of public utility, whether religious, political, or social, are discussed—grievances are pointed out—abuses are exposed—the interests of the Colony are advocated, and the population are kept informed on all points wherein they are interested. Instead of being overburthened with onerous taxes, the Press should be encouraged and protected, to become really free; for under the present system, the liberty of the Press as it exists is bought, and bought dearly too.

Since 1837 the stamp duty on newspapers has been considerably reduced in England, through the persevering efforts of many great and eminent men who were not discouraged by the difficulties they encountered. Why are we deprived of these ameliorations which have been made in the mother-country, —we, who have more need of them, as our civilisation is not so advanced, and the expenses of such an undertaking greater than elsewhere? The British nation, which boasts so justly of its principles of liberty, should be eager to spread its liberal institutions to its Colonies. Let us hope then that the time is not distant when we shall enjoy the advantages of modifications which we have a right to demand from a British Government after the changes that have taken place during thirty years. But to obtain these just claims we must ask for them,—we must petition or nothing will be done: perhaps our good Government here, seeing the resignation, the indifference, and especially the silence with which we bear our present burdens, may even think fit to add to them. Have we not seen lately the new Postmaster bringing from the dust old musty records containing a tax on newspapers which custom has for some time repealed? This fact alone deserves to be signalled to our fellow-journalists of the British Press, to excite them to sympathise with us and to advocate our cause. When

they hear that we are obliged to pay to obtain our news from the mother-country, to participate in the advantages of the free Press of Great Britain, we are sure that our voice will find an echo that will resound throughout England, repeating with redoubled force that such burthens are prejudicial to our relation with the British nation, as well as to the progress of civilisation and liberty. —*Le Mauricien*.

Mauritius Sugar Exported.

Crop 1845-1846.

Total to 31st August, 1845...	20,757 lbs.
Eleanor, for London	759,749 "
Ann, for the Cape	71,794 "
Caribbean, for London	727,674
Norfolk, for the Cape	135,631
Scotia, for Hobart Town	80,405
Sultan, for Cork	909,149
Invoice, for Liverpool	423,293
29th of May, for London	712,035

Total 3,770,487 lbs.

Against 6,925,198 lbs. last year at the same period.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

THE papers from this Colony, which reach to the 24th November, are almost as barren of intelligence as those from the other Colonies.

We have, however, published in another portion of this number some of the latest commercial statistics, which may be found useful for future reference.

From a memorandum of the number of vessels, with their registered tonnage, which have loaded up to the 25th October, 1845, with Guano, from Malagas Island, Seal Island, Pater Noster, and Elephant's Rocks, it appears that the number of vessels is 174, with a tonnage of 47,023. The mode of payment to Government for licenses has been, by cash, £16,411, and by securities, £30,271, realising to the revenue from this source a total, to the above date, of £46,682.

Several farmers and gardeners at the Cape have used considerable quantities of Guano this year, with marked success in all kinds of crops. It is the best and most manageable manure yet discovered.

The *Government Gazette* of the 24th

October contains official notices of the following appointments.—

Capt. Sutton, C. M. R., to be British Resident among the native tribes to the north-east of the Colony, until Her Majesty's pleasure be known.

Lieut. W. P. Jamieson, R. N., to be Harbour-Master at Port Elizabeth, vice Dunsterville, deceased.

Major Smith, 27th Regt., to be Frontier Commissioner and Agent-General for the eastern or Kafir boundary of this Colony, until Her Majesty's pleasure be known.

The news from Natal, to the 19th of October, is not so favourable as accounts contained in private letters previously received inclined us to believe. A considerable number of Dutch farmers, it is now stated, were about to proceed to a new Settlement which they call "Andries Orig Town," which is at Sofala. Indeed, if the rumours afloat are to be credited, the Lieut.-Governor of Natal will have none but natives to rule over—at least until the gap occasioned by the departure of the Dutch shall be stopped by fresh arrivals, which will very soon be the case. There are two things to which the trekking mania of the Natal inhabitants will inevitably lead—first, to an extension of British territory beyond the present boundary of the Natal district,—and secondly, to an augmentation of British force in South Africa. This language is not used offensively—such is the natural course of events. It will also be for their good—and they are blind who cannot see it. Their best friends have used and are still using their utmost influence to prevent them from flying from the shelter of British protection and law, to encounter fresh dangers and difficulties. But if they persist in flying in the face of the advice thus kindly offered, and the warnings faithfully given—and in listening to the counsel of the foolish, the interested, and the unprincipled amongst them, it must be admitted with sorrow and regret by all who wish them well—and none wish them better than we do—that their past misfortunes have neither given them experience, nor taught them wisdom.

The list of second-class farms, according to the *Natalier*, had arrived, and it is complained that only about 175 are registered under this head,* which, including about 190 first-class farms, make altogether 365. If however, says the writer, "the second-class farms are considered each as *one-third* of a farm—which in fact it is—the grants of farms made to a people who have sacrificed their all for this new Settlement do not amount to 250." On this subject it was intended to memorialise the Lieut.-Governor as soon as he arrived.

WEST INDIES.

HONDURAS.—The termination of the trials for libel, to which we have elsewhere alluded, is such as cannot fail to be highly satisfactory, not only to the prosecutor and his numerous friends, but to every one desirous for the preservation of the rights and privileges of individuals, as well as for the maintenance of public order and decorum. The published statements of the defendants which reflected on the character of Dr. Walker have, by the decisions of two separate juries, been emphatically pronounced, each and all of them, to be as false and malicious in their nature as they were injurious in their tendency; and a severe punishment has been inflicted on the defamers of his good name. The damages awarded in each case, although perhaps unusually large, are, in our opinion, far from being excessive; nor can they be so regarded by any one who was present at the trial, or who is at all conversant with the nature of the case. It is not our intention to recapitulate the circumstances which gave rise to the trials in question, but we content ourselves with referring our readers to Dr. Walker's letter, published in the *Examiner* on the 25th of last June; which letter contains a detailed account of the whole matter; at the same time begging our readers to note that there is not a single statement therein made, (the truth of which had been called in question,) but which is now triumphantly esta-

blished by the unanimous verdict of two separate juries of honest and intelligent men. We will not conclude the subject without referring to two facts which cannot but excite surprise in the minds of our English readers. Dr. Walker took the usual preliminary steps with a view to the instituting of criminal proceedings—but the magistrates, on a consideration of the warrant which they themselves had granted, and contrary to a precedent which they themselves had recently furnished in the case of Mr. Gunter, decided, that such a course could not in the present case be pursued. The second fact is the permission of the Court, in opposition to the opinion of the Chief Justice, to allow objections to common jurors in civil cases without the nature of the objection being stated.—*Examiner*.

JAMAICA.—The dry weather, to which we have repeatedly had occasion to advert of late, has operated, we fear, very prejudicially in the lowland districts of the south side, while it has been hailed as a boon by the planters in St. Mary, as enabling them to take off their canes during a period of the year best adapted for sugar-making in that wet parish. Even in St. Thomas in the East, an unusually dry fall has been experienced; but to the westward of the island, comprising the important agricultural parishes of Westmoreland and Hanover, the seasons have been generally favourable; while in St. James and Trelawny, although the vegetation is very backward, there are still indications afforded of an average crop. In Kingston and its neighbourhood we have lately had some delightful showers—the first for several months. Turning to the coffee districts, even there we find that the dry weather has extended with prejudicial effects—having occurred at the most critical season, when the berry was maturing—the consequence of which is, that nearly one-half of the produce is what is technically termed “light;” that is, though the pulp was formed and ripened, the seed was not perfected; so that we may safely say, that about one-third of the crops will consist of this inferior quality. As this has reference espe-

cially to the district which produces the first quality of coffee, further scarcity of that article will doubtless be felt during the ensuing year, the increasing demand for which has lately arisen, it would appear, from its being used to disguise the flavourless coffee of Ceylon and Brazil. This, we need scarcely say, points out to the coffee-planters the necessity of increasing attention to the manufacture; otherwise it will be almost impossible for them to contend with the forced labour of the one, or the cheap labour of the other.

In further elucidation of the general state and prospects of the Colony, in a commercial and financial point of view, we may state generally, as respects the latter, that by the estimate of the ways and means for 1846, recently presented to the House of Assembly by the Commissioners of Accounts, the island expenditure is put down at £347,815; the revenue, including £56,000 in the hands of the Receiver General, at £337,426; while in respect to the former, we would direct attention to the following tables of the estimated value of our exports and imports for the past year:—

*Value of Imports for the Year ending
30th September, 1845.*

Brandy, 52,931 galls., at 3s.	£7,939
Gin, 4,326 galls., at 3s.	678
Flour, 117,027 brls., at £1 10s.	175,540
Cornmeal, 19,027 brls., at 12s.	11,416
Bread, 14,561 brls., at 10s.	7,280
“ 82 bags, at 5s.	20
“ 1,622 cwt., at 5s.	405
Rice, 727,693 lbs., at 1s. 1½d.	3,790
“ 19,518 bags, at 12s.	11,710
Corn, 75,946 bags, at 6s.	22,783
Dry Fish, 15,302 casks, at £3... ..	45,906
Fish, 25,050 boxes, at 10s.	12,525
“ 7,548 trs., at £2	15,096
Pickled Fish, 35,071 brls., at £1	35,071
“ 550 frkns., at 10s.	275
W. O. Staves, 602,630 per M., at £6... ..	3,615
R. O. Staves, 965,901 per M., at £6	5,795
Shingles, 7,068,048 per M., at £1 10s.	11,502
Lumber, 9,008,221, per M., at £5	45,041
Wood Hoops, 951,435, per M., at £4... ..	3,805
Beef, 2,622 brls., at £3	7,866
Pork, 15,243 brls., at £3	45,729
Butter and Lard, 29,776 frkns., at £2	59,552
Candles, 24,045 boxes, at £1 10s.	36,067
Soup, 52,297 boxes, at 15s.	39,222
Horses, 456, each £10	4,560
Mules, 90, each £10	900
Asses, 266, each £3... ..	798
Cattle, 1,937, each £5	9,685

£624,571

*Jamaica Exports for the Year ending
10th October, 1845.*

Sugar, hhds., 43,466, at £18	£782,388
„ tra., 5,780, at £12	69,438
„ brls., 4,797, at £3	14,391
Rum, pun, 16,856, at £9	151,656
„ hhd., 152, at £6	912
„ casks, 265, at £5	1,325
Molasses, casks, 15, at £5	75
Ginger, casks, 3,506, at £4 10s.	15,779
„ bags, 1,129, at £2	2,258
Pimento, casks, 233, at £1 10s.	349
„ bags, 59,494, at £1	59,494
Coffee, lbs, 5,021,209, at 6d.	125,530
	<hr/>
	£1,223,664

In addition thereto we must, however, add the value of

British Dry Goods imported during the year, which, at a very moderate computation, cannot be less than £800,000

In all	£1,424,580
From which deducting the value of Exports, or	1,223,644

Leaves a balance against the Colony of	£200,916
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It is obvious, however, that the property exported constitutes only a moiety of that annually created and consumed in the Colony; thus—

400,000 inhabitants consume, on an average, say 6 lbs. of yams, plantains, coconuts, &c., at 1d. per lb.	
£2,000 per day	£700,000
Of corn, garden stuffs, fish, flesh, &c.	130,000
Of sugar, coffee, rum, &c., at least...	120,000
Beesides grass, cattle, horse-kind, &c.	90,000
To which we may add for manufactures and other handicraft productions	100,000

In all	£1,170,000
To which adding the amount of exports	1,223,664

Gives a total amount created annually, of	2,393,664
Or an excess over our purchases	1,424,580

of ... £969,080

The interest in Jamaica Railways gains ground in proportion to the extent of public information upon the subject, and the experience of their vast utility, as indicated in the highly successful operations of the Kingston and Spanish Town Line. Already, Bills have been passed in the House of Assembly, for the South Midland Extension Line to Old Harbour, and thence to Clarendon Park; and for the Great Interior Line through St. Thomas in the Vale, and thence to Port Maria. With respect to this latter line, it is

necessary to remark that it was originally intended to make the shipping terminus at Port Henderson; but on various accounts it has been deemed advisable to give up that port, and carry on the present line of Railway, from Spanish Town, under an amicable arrangement with Mr. Wm. Smith. Thus the two interests, instead of clashing together, will now operate with mutual advantage, while the public will thereby be enabled to obtain a decidedly cheaper conveyance than could possibly have been the case had the opposing line been carried out. Next to this, in progress as well as in importance, are the Northern Line, from Montego Bay to Annotto Bay, and that running thence by way of Stoney Hill to Kingston. These Companies have been prevented coming before the House with their bills only in consequence of their inability to conform to a very immaterial portion of the rules unexpectedly adopted by the Legislature; but they will no doubt take the earliest opportunity which His Excellency or the House presents, to place themselves on a similar footing with those of the Great Interior and South Midland Lines.

In addition to the tramway proposed to be laid down by Mr. Price, of Worthing Park, for which a bill has already been obtained, we have also much pleasure in announcing the intention of Mr. Alex. G. Fyfe and others, of the parish of Metcalfe, of applying to the Legislature next Session for a bill to establish a Central Sugar Manufactory and Saw Mills in that parish, with branch tramways into the various agricultural valleys in the neighbourhood. With another at Port Maria, St. Thomas in the Vale, &c., there is little doubt that most important advantages will be obtained; while for the present we need only point to the various efforts which are now manifesting themselves on every side, as evidences most conclusive of the awakened spirit of our fellow-colonists, and their determination to allow no opportunity to escape of availing themselves of every facility which science or art, energy or perseverance, can afford.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

CANADA.—We have Montreal papers to the 27th Dec., and from Kingston, Toronto, and the other leading towns of the Province, to corresponding dates. There is little news in the papers.

We understand it is the intention of the friends and supporters of Lord Metcalfe, forthwith to commence a subscription to erect some memorial or record of the estimation in which he is held. We are gratified to learn the fact, and so will the country be.

Canadian Railways.—Owing to the numerous notices that have been given in the *Canada Gazette* for Acts of Incorporation for the Montreal and Hamilton Railway, it is stated in the *Herald*, that in order to avoid the clashing of interests, it has been determined to divide the road into three sections,—one from Hamilton to Cobourg, to be under the Toronto Company; one from Cobourg to Prescott, to be under the Kingston Company, and to include the Wolfe Island Road; and one from Prescott to Montreal, to be under the Montreal Company. A union of the whole into one grand line, with a branch across Wolfe Island, has also been proposed.

Mr. Logan and Mr. McNaughton

returned from their surveying expedition a short time ago. The results are not unimportant. They went to Lake Nipissing and Lake Temiscaming. Including the latter, and the smooth water beyond it, there is an extent of navigation for 130 miles, and every appearance of immense tracts of fine lands near it. About five miles up the Montreal River, which falls into Lake Temiscaming, there is an abundance of fine slate—a most valuable discovery—and which, we hope, will be turned to some use. The rise between the Matawa and Temiscaming is stated to be under 50 feet, by exact measurement, instead of 220 as guessed at in a former survey! The distance between the Ottawa and Lake Nipissing is 34 miles as the crow would fly, and 45 by the Little River. The banks of the latter are said to afford every facility for deepening it by means of dams. Hares swarm in the country about Lake Temiscaming; the Indians kill them in immense numbers. The Hudson Bay Company collected, last winter, 9,000 hare skins, at one of their posts on the Lake. Mr. Logan, of course, surveyed the country geologically, and in due time we shall, no doubt, have further particulars.—*Bytown Gazette*.

BIRTH, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTH.

On the 25th Nov., at Mangrove Lodge, Barbados, the lady of John Kains, Esq., Surveyor-General of the Post-Offices in the West Indies, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 3rd of October, at Jaffna, Ceylon, Geo. S. Bontson, Esq., M.D., to Mary Jane, only daughter of Major Cochrane, Ceylon Rifles.

At Chusan, on the 2nd of October, Osmond Cleverly, Esq., of Kilworth, County Cork, Ireland, to Ellen, youngest daughter of James Fagan, Esq., H. M. 98th Reg.

At Quebec, on the 24th Dec., at the Rectory Chapel, by the Lord Bishop of Montreal, the Rev. J. E. F. Simpson, Minister of St. Paul's Chapel in that city, to Georgiana, daughter of the late Edmond Anthony Ireland, Esq., of Quebec.

At Kussowlee, Bengal, on the 8th Nov., Lieut.-Col. J. B. Gough, C.B., 3rd Light Dragoons, Military Secretary to His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief in India, to Margaret, fifth daughter of Major-General Sir John Mac-Caskill, K.C.B.

On the 4th Dec., at the Parish Church of Montreal, by the Rev. Mr. Richards, and afterwards at Christ Church, by the Rev. W. A. Adamson, Eden Colville, Esq., M.P.F., second son of Andrew Colville, of Ochiltree, Esq., to

Ann, third daughter of Col. Maxwell, late of the 15th Reg.

At the Cathedral, Calcutta, on the 19th Nov., by the Rev. G. U. Withers, James P. Molloy, Esq., of Sericole, Jessore, to Louisa Frances, eldest daughter of William Brodie, Esq., late of South Mall, in the County of Sussex.

At Bishop's College Chapel, Calcutta, on the 27th Nov., Henry Southgate Austin, of Moulmein, to Annie, only daughter of the Rev. G. C. Jenner, of Berkeley, Gloucestershire.

DEATHS.

At Falmouth, Jamaica, on the 6th Dec., the Rev. Griffith Griffiths, Rector of Trelawney, aged 44, much respected and beloved.

At Grenada, on the 13th Dec., Henry C. Onslow, Esq., Dep.-Assistant Com.-General, son of Arthur Onslow, Esq., and nephew of Earl Onslow, at the early age of 25 years.

In Leguan, Bemerara, on the 3rd Dec., Rev. W. G. T. Dodgson, M.A., of Queen's College, Oxon, Rector of St. Peter's Parish, and formerly Vicar of Arksey, Yorkshire, aged 43.

At his estate, Latanto, Grenada, on the 19th Dec., Wm. H. Whiteman, Esq., the oldest Member of the Legislature, and one of the senior Magistrates of the Colony.

At Castries, St. Lucia, on the 7th Dec., of malignant fever, Patrick Brenan, Esq., Chief Commissioner of Police in that Island.

COLONIAL, FOREIGN, AND GENERAL MERCHANTS AGENCY,

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ESTABLISHED for the purpose of concentrating the COMMISSION AND AGENCY BUSINESS for the Continent and the Colonies; giving extended publicity to Business Announcements; procuring and communicating authentic information in regard to the Sale and Purchase of LANDS and MERCHANDIZE, Home and Colonial; facilitating the Departure of PASSENGERS and the Transmission of SMALL PARCELS; providing OUTFITS; effecting MARINE and LIFE ASSURANCES; and furnishing to the NEXT OF KIN, from Intestate Estates, Administration of the real and personal Property of such deceased Persons—together with other Business, which is transacted on a moderate Commission, to all Parties interested in, or proceeding to the BRITISH COLONIES and FOREIGN POSSESSIONS BEYOND THE SEAS.

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MESSRS. SIMMONDS & WARD,
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The Proprietors respectfully submit the extensive arrangements of their Establishment for transacting the several branches of Agency, trusting that all Parties availing themselves of its instrumentality will find their object attained with expedition and advantage, and in the most confidential and satisfactory manner. They are prepared to give the most satisfactory references, and beg to add, as a proof of the confidence which may be reposed in them, that they supply Lloyd's, the Royal Exchange Subscription Room, and the Universal Hall of Commerce, with their Papers. There is scarcely a port or a town where a newspaper is issued from which they do not receive the latest intelligence by every arrival.

For the purpose of rendering the Establishment generally useful, the following, among others, are the objects contemplated:—

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CONSIGNMENTS.—Messrs S. & W. receive Consignments of Colonial Produce and Merchandise, to be sold on commission, accepting Bills at

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Samples and Books of Patterns are forwarded or procured for Merchants and Manufacturers. The latest Prices-current obtained from all quarters of the world, and Business Cards and Circulars transmitted abroad.

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LAND.—Every information may be obtained respecting the terms and regulations upon which Land is disposed of in Canada and the British North American Provinces, the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, Prince of Wales Island, Hong Kong, New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land, Western Australia, South Australia, New Zealand, and other Colonies.

Proprietors of Land, Estates, and other Property in the Colonies treated with for the purchase and re-sale of the same.

PARTIES ARRIVING FROM THE COLONIES may have their Bills on London cashed, their Luggage cleared without the attendance of the Owners, and any business at the Custom-house, Docks, or elsewhere transacted, thereby saving much trouble, delay, and expense. Ladies and Children arriving from abroad, on previous information being given, will be met by one of the Principals at any of the outports, and all necessary arrangements made for their landing, securing accommodations in London, and eventual transmission to their friends in the country.

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FREIGHTS.—Messrs. S. & W. continue to receive and ship from London, Liverpool, or Southampton, by every steamer or vessel, all descriptions of Goods, Merchandise, Live Stock, Parcels, Books, Specie, and Packages of every description, to the Continent, the United States, the East and West Indies, the Cape of Good Hope, Australia, South America, and all parts of the world. And in order to facilitate the conveyance of **SMALL PARCELS**, Messrs. S. & W. engage to forward such to all

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PERSONS IN THE COUNTRY connected in any way with the Colonies, and who may be desirous of despatching Newspapers, Periodicals, Parcels, or Letters to their friends, are recommended to forward them through this Agency.

Every information afforded as to the arrival and departure of Vessels, and the latest dates in town from particular Colonies.

LETTERS AND NEWSPAPERS received for and from the United States, the East and West Indies, Australasia, China, the Continent, and the Colonies, and forwarded agreeably to instruction by the first opportunity. Every information furnished as to the quickest Mail-routes, the Rates of Postage, &c. Parties who have no account with the Firm must forward a remittance with their letters or parcels, or they will not be transmitted.

NEWSPAPER DEPARTMENT.

ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS, &c.—In consequence of their extensive Newspaper Agency, and having the supply of most of the leading News Rooms, Clubs, Public Libraries, and Chambers of Commerce at home and in the Colonies, with their London and Continental Newspapers, Messrs. S. & W. trust that Parties will feel confidence in transmitting their Orders for London, Provincial or Foreign Papers to this Establishment, and depend upon their regular and prompt receipt. A list of all the London Newspapers, with their prices, will be forwarded on demand.

FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS.—Messrs. S. & W. having devoted their attention for a long period principally to the supply of Foreign and Colonial Papers, may be permitted to state without fear of contradiction, that there is no Establishment possessed of so much information relating to the Foreign Press, having such facilities for the prompt and regular supply of Foreign Newspapers, or where so many different files of Papers, for a series of years, can be referred to. Being the specially-appointed Agents of most of the leading Foreign Journals, and being nearly every

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Orders for any Newspaper, Magazine, Periodical, or Book, published in Europe, America, or the Colonies, will be received and executed without delay, whether the order be for a single copy or a series of numbers. The attention of the Proprietors of Public Libraries, Clubs, News Rooms, Hotels, Schools, Editors of Newspapers, News Agents, and Private Gentlemen is respectfully called to this department.

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.—Advertisements are received for insertion in all the British and Foreign Newspapers and Periodical Publications. From their extended experience, Messrs. S. & W. are enabled to afford the most prompt, detailed, and explicit information as to the best mediums of publicity for Professional or Commercial Announcements, and the character, circulation, and advertising charges of every Newspaper published: the continuous files, or specimen copies, may also be examined at their Offices. Notices of Insolvency or Dissolution of Partnership, for insertion in the "London Gazette," or Official Gazettes of the Colonies, must be drawn up by a Solicitor and sworn to before a Master in Chancery. Advertisements and Prospectuses of every kind are prepared and translated at a moderate charge, regulated according to their nature and length.

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Editors, Reporters, and Compositors are engaged when required; and the Sale or Purchase of the Copyrights of Newspapers negotiated; Debts collected; and every matter attended to for which the services of confidential London Agents can be required.

Summaries of News and the latest editions of Newspapers are transmitted by every packet to those Editors who may desire them.

LITERARY AGENCY.

The Sale of Copyrights and the Publication of New Works will be undertaken, and Estimates given of the charges for Printing, Paper, Advertising, &c. Periodicals and Works printed in the Colonies may be sent home on sale, and reviews and notices of them will be procured in the British and Continental Journals. Authors may have their Works published on the Continent, in America, and in England at the same time. Information, facts, &c. obtained at the public institutions and libraries of Great Britain, and also of Paris and other foreign capitals, by consulting scarce works there, and which Authors, on account of their absence from those places, may not be able personally to examine.

Publishers and Authors at home who may be desirous of bringing New Books, Periodicals, Engravings, Music, &c. before the Colonial Public, can obtain of them every information as to the best mode of doing so; which are considered the leading Papers, their character and circulation; the cost of transit, for freight, duty, &c.

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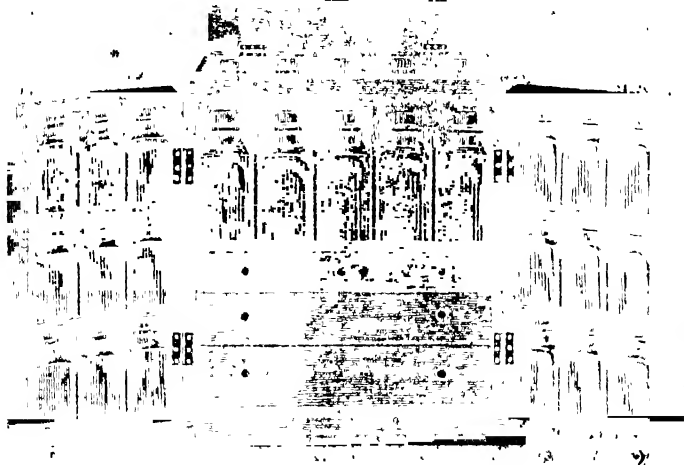
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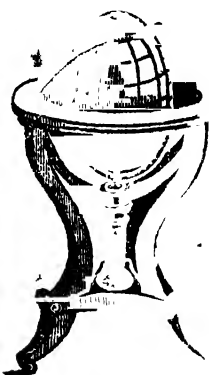
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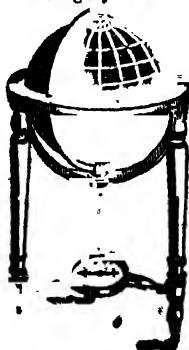
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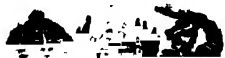
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It is almost superfluous to speak of the quality of their Alkaline Waters, tested as they have been by the sanction of the MEDICAL PROFESSION and the unvarying preference of the public for SIXTY YEARS past, notwithstanding the rivalry and competition which such patronage usually produces; but their Aerated Lemonade being an article of more recent introduction, they may be permitted to remark that, as an AGREEABLE and REFRESHING beverage, it is UNEQUALLED, and the demand for it is increasing every year.

As LIME WATER, under a fanciful name, has recently been extensively advertised by another party as a NEW INVENTION, J. S. & Co. beg respectfully to inform the public that they have for many years past manufactured and sold

AERATED LIME WATER;

but as LIME (under whatever name it may be introduced to the public) is dangerous to some constitutions—PRODUCING the very disorders it is presumed to cure or prevent—they do not recommend it for indiscriminate use, BUT ONLY UNDER MEDICAL DIRECTION.

An attempt having been made to mislead the public into the idea that the Genuine

GERMAN SELTERS WATER

has become a monopoly in the hands of one party, J. S. & Co. beg to state that such is NOT THE CASE, for they continue to receive, without the slightest interruption, throughout the season, and direct from the Springs, their usual shipments of these celebrated Waters, through the Agency of the same Commercial House on the Rhine that has superintended this department of their business for the last twenty years.

As "Capsules," or any other fanciful covering to the cork, may be just as easily applied in this country as elsewhere, they can be no guarantee for the genuineness or freshness of the Water, beyond the respectability of any party adopting them.

In conjunction with the above old-established business, J. S. & Co. solicit attention to their Fine Stock of

FOREIGN WINES,

which they offer to their friends and the public, of the highest quality, and at a price as low as may be commensurate with a fair and moderate profit. They hope they may be permitted to refer to the high respectability of their firm for upwards of half a century, as a guarantee for the superior quality of their Wines, and that quality will not be sacrificed to price.

Their stock, which they have been for a considerable time past most carefully selecting, comprehends the whole range of Wines usually in demand, and at prices, graduating from those high quotations, attendant on high and rare qualities, down to the lowest prices at which genuine unadulterated Wines can be obtained.

To enable the public to form their opinion as to price and variety, J. S. & Co. respectfully submit the following List of Cash Prices:—

Per Doz.	Per Doz.	Per Doz.
PORTS from the Wood, 30s. 32s. 34s. 36s.	Madeira (Malmsey) plnts 42s. Do. West and East In- dia, old and choice 63s. 70s.	MOSELES, Braunoberger 48s. Scharberger 50s. ditto, very old 72s.
Do. fine old crusted, 42s. 44s. 48s. 50s. 54s.	Bucellas 36s. 38s. Lisbon, dry or rich 28s. Old Bronte and Marsala 20s.	CHAMPAGNE, Sparkling 1 st or Creaming, 1 st quality 80s. ditto, 2 nd quality 63s. ditto, very ex- cellent 54s.
SHERRIES from the Wood 30s. 34s. 36s. 42s. Do. in Bottles, from 36s. upwds. Do. gold colour, very su- perior 42s. 48s. Do. pale do. 36s. 42s. Do. Caviza, of the high- est character 48s. 54s. Do. Amontillado 50s. MADEIRAS, direct ... 54s.	HOCKS, Hattenheimer 62s. Marcobrunner 70s. Erbacher ... 72s. Hockheimer 80s. Rudesheimer 88s. Johannisberger 92s. Steinberger, 1822 108s. Sparkling ... 70s.	CLARETS, Latour, Chateaux Margeaux and Lafite, 1 st growth 70s. 80s. do. 2 nd growth 60s. St. Julien ... 36s. 40s. Wines in the Wood at pro- portionate Prices.

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Admission, One Shilling; Schools, half-price.

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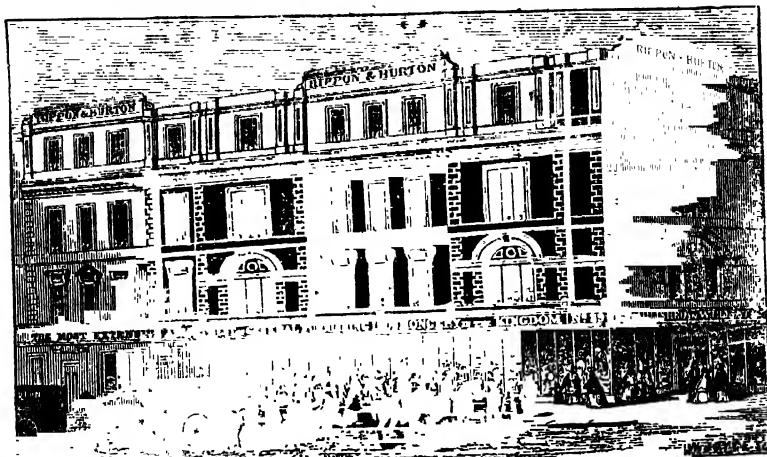
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	Fiddle	Threaded	King's
	Pattern.	Pattern.	Pattern.
Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen	12s. 0d.	28s. 0d.	30s. 0d.
Dessert ditto and ditto ditto	10s. 0d.	21s. 0d.	25s. 0d.
Tea ditto and ditto ditto	5s. 0d.	11s. 0d.	12s. 0d.
Gravy ditto	3s. 0d.	6s. 0d.	7s. 0d.

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the public have a genuine article only) are, as it regards wear, immeasurably superior to what can be supplied by any other house, while by no possible test can they be distinguished from real silver.

	Fiddle	Thread.	King's.
Teaspoons, per dozen.	18s. 0d.	32s. 0d.	38s. 0d.
Dessert Forks	30s. 0d.	46s. 0d.	58s. 0d.
Dessert Spoons	30s. 0d.	52s. 0d.	62s. 0d.
Table Forks	40s. 0d.	68s. 0d.	75s. 0d.
Table Spoons	40s. 0d.	72s. 0d.	80s. 0d.

Tea and Coffee Sets, Waiters, Candlesticks, &c., at proportionate prices. All kinds of re-plating done by the Patent process. Detailed catalogues, with engravings, sent (per post) free.

FENDERS, STOVES, and FIRE-IRONS.—The LARGEST ASSORTMENT OF STOVES and FENDERS, as well as GENERAL IRONMONGERY, in the WORLD, is now on SALE at RIPPON and BURTON'S extensive Warehouses, 39, Oxford Street, corner of Newman Street. Bright Steel Fenders, to 4 feet, 30s. each; ditto, ditto, with Ornolu Ornaments, from 60s.; Rich Bronzed Scrolled ditto, with Steel Bar, 10s. 6d.; Iron Fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; ditto Bronzed and fitted with Standards, 3 feet, 9s.; 4 feet, 11s.; Wrought Iron Kitchen Fenders, 3 feet, 4s. 6d.; 4 feet, 6s.; Bright Register Stoves, with One and Two Sets of Bars, from 95s.; ditto ditto, with Ornolu Ornaments, from 110s.

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The money returned for every article sent by post free.

RIPPON & BURTON'S Stock of General Furnishing Ironmongery is literally the largest in the World. They regret they cannot employ any language which will convey an adequate impression of its variety and extent; they therefore invite Purchasers to call and inspect it.

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SIMMONDS'S COLONIAL MAGAZINE.

No. 27.]

MARCH, 1846.

[Vol. VII.]

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Editors of Papers will oblige by sending a copy of their Journal in which notices of the COLONIAL MAGAZINE appear, to the Publishing Office.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We cannot find room this month for very many articles of interest; among others, "Remarks on the Moral State of Sydney," "On Antarctic Discoveries," continuations of the papers "On the Liberated African Establishment at St. Helena," "On Prince of Wales Island," "On the Sugar-producing Colonies of the East," "Notes on the Sandwich Islands," &c.

We shall commence, next month, a very interesting series of "Sketches and Rambles in Texas," by Chas. Hooton, Esq.

LATEST DATES

OF FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWSPAPERS, PRICES CURRENT, AND SHIPPING LISTS, received at the COLONIAL MAGAZINE OFFICE, to the 27th February.

Places.	Dates.	Places.	Dates.	Places.	Dates.	Places.	Dates.
Europe—Mediterr.		Tobago	Jan. 15	Wellington	Aug. 17	Newfoundland	
Gibraltar	Feb. 16	Trinidad	Jan. 16	East Indies		St. John's	Dec. 25
Malta	Feb. 4	Africa—		Mauritius	Dec. 3	Harb. Grace Dec. 18	
Corfu	Jan. 17	Algiers	Feb. 20	Bombay	Jan. 17	Canada—	
West Indies—		C of Good Hope	Dec. 28	Calcutta	Jan. 9	Montreal	Jan. 28
Antigua	Jan. 27	Grah. Town	Dec. 20	Madras	Jan. 13	Quebec	Jan. 26
Bahamas	Jan. 2	Australia—		Delhi	Jan. 6	Kingston	Jan. 23
Barbados	Jan. 24	N. South Wales		Agra	Jan. 3	Toronto	Jan. 24
Bermice	Jan. 19	Sydney	Sep. 6	Ceylon	Jan. 16	United States—	
Bermuda	Jan. 24	Geelong	Sep. 2	Penang	Jan. 9	Boston	Feb. 1
Dominica	Jan. 24	Maitland	Sep. 5	Singapore	Jan. 9	New York	Jan. 31
Grenada	Jan. 25	Port Phillip	Sep. 8	Hong Kong	Dec. 30	Philadelphia	Jan. 29
Gulana, British Jan. 18		South Australia—		British N. America—		Baltimore	Jan. 27
Havannah	Dec. 11	Adelaide	Oct.	New Brunswick—		Washington	Feb. 1
Honduras	Nov. 30	Western Australia—		St. John	Jan. 31	Charleston	Jan. 29
Jamaica, King Jan. 23		Perth	Sep. 16	Fredericton	Jan. 29	New Orleans	Jan. 20
Falmouth Jan. 20		Van Diemen's Land—		Nova Scotia—		South America—	
Mont. Hay Jan. 20		Hobart Town	Sep. 24	Halifax	Feb. 3	Rio de Janeiro	Dec. 15
St Christopher Jan. 23		Launceston	Sep. 20	Pictou	Feb. 1	Monte Video	Nov. 8
St Lucia	Jan. 22	New Zealand—		Yamouth	Feb.	Buenos Ayres	Nov. 15
St Vincent	Jan. 2	Auckland	June 20	Prince Edw. Isl.		Valparaiso	Oct. 15
St. Thomas	Jan. 3	Nelson	Aug. 16	Charlotte-town	Jan. 26		



SIMMONDS'S. COLONIAL MAGAZINE.

PROGRESS OF DISCOVERY IN AUSTRALIA— CAPT. STURT'S EXPEDITION.

[By late arrivals from South Australia, we have been put in possession of the following important Despatches from Capt. Sturt, reporting the progress of the exploring Expedition under his charge, and announcing the death of Mr. James Poole, second in command of the party.]

At the Depôt, in Longitude 141. 30. East;
Latitude 29. 40. 12. South.

June 5th, 1845.

SIR,—Circumstances which I shall presently detail to you for His Excellency's information having rendered it necessary for me to send a third of my men back to Adelaide, I avail myself of the opportunity thus afforded me of forwarding to the Right Honourable the Secretary of State, through His Excellency, a copy of my Journal up to the end of March, together with a map and an explanatory despatch. I also forward collections of the different seeds, birds, and geological specimens, that have been secured by the Expedition to this date. Not having the means of packing these things as they should be packed, I should feel obliged if His Excellency will give the necessary orders for their being examined and secured, prior to transmission to England.

My despatch to Lord Stanley having been written with a view to call His Lordship's attention to several parts of my Journal, and to explain more fully than I could otherwise have done the circumstances in which I am placed, and the grounds on which I have thought it expedient to adopt the measures I have done, it remains for me to report, through you, to His Excellency, for the further information of the Secretary of State, the progress of the Expedition under my command since I last addressed you.

I believe that in my letter of the 17th of October, 1844, I reported that I had passed along the Darling without any rupture with the natives, and that the reports I had heard at Lake Victoria of the massacre of a party of Europeans had proved incorrect, the whole story having been based on Major Mitchell's rupture with the natives in 1836. I also reported that I was about to leave the camp on an excursion to the north-west, to examine the country seen by Mr. Poole. I accordingly left Cawndilla, to which place I had moved the camp from the junction of the Williorara with the Darling, on the 21st of the

month, accompanied by Mr. Browne, two of my men, and a native. We crossed a plain of about thirty miles in breadth, on a W.N.W. course, and at that distance struck a creek, which led us, on a bearing of 132 degrees, to a gap in the front line of some hills towards which we were approaching. Passing through this gap, we gradually rose to an elevated table land, surrounded on all sides by ranges. Whilst we were on the Darling, a flood occurred in that river, which I had hoped was caused by rains in the hills laid down by Sir Thomas Mitchell, and that they were conveyed into the Darling by the channel of the Williorara, in which case I should have found an easy entrance into the N.W. interior along its banks; my object being to gain a position north of Mount Arden. On my arrival at that place I had been disappointed in this expectation, the Williorara being nothing more than a channel of communication between the river and the basins of Cawndilla and Minandichi. My object, therefore, in the present excursion, was as much to discover the means by which to advance the party to the N.W., and so to remove it from a populous neighbourhood, as to examine the country. Although we were obliged to dig wells in the lower part of the creek for the supply of water, we found several ponds nearer the ranges, in which there was a sufficient supply of water for our cattle for a month. On gaining the table land, therefore, I turned to the north, and passing through another gap in the ranges, returned to the camp by a line somewhat to the eastward of that by which I had left, and immediately removed the party to the hills.

On the 6th of November I again proceeded to the N.W. with the same party, but without a native. At about fifteen miles we surmounted the ranges, and descended to a plain of apparently boundless extent. The ranges trended to the north; but as I wished to pursue a N.W. course, I moved obliquely to them. For the first fifteen miles we passed over barren stony plains, from which we entered a low brush, and, on issuing from it, found ourselves in a country in which long narrow flats alternated with sandy ridges, on which cypresses were growing, and on which there was no want of grass. I had brought the light cart with me, and had filled it with water, and penetrated into this country until our supply was exhausted, when we were obliged to turn back without having been able to ascertain to what distance this dreary region extended. We had scarcely reached the hills on our return to the camp, when it commenced to rain, and continued so to do for two days. On reaching it, therefore, I determined to avail myself of so favourable an opportunity, by sending Mr. Poole to the N.W. to pass the point to which I had gone, lat. 30. 29., and, if possible, to gain Lake Torrens. Mr. Poole left me on the morning of the 18th, and pursued the course I had laid down for him, until he passed lat. 29. 44.; when, seeing no likelihood of a change of country, and as, from his observations and reckoning, he considered that he ought to have been at the Lake, he turned to the westward, and ultimately reached its shores, opposite to three remarkable peaks, laid down by Mr. Eyre. At this extreme end, Lake Torrens appeared to Mr. Poole to consist of a succession of lakes, formed by the drainage from the hills; but he could

not see very far to the north, in which direction it might have been unbroken. Its waters were slightly salt, and its bed was composed of black mud, thinly encrusted with salt; and although the Lake appeared to be narrower here than Mr. Poole expected to have seen it, he says that the country for twenty miles, as you approach Lake Torrens, is so peculiar, that any one looking down upon it from such lofty eminences as Mount Serle and Mount Hopeless would naturally conclude that the whole was the large bed of a lake. Mr. Poole would have continued the examination of Lake Torrens more to the north, but he was apprehensive that his retreat would be cut off by the evaporation of the water left on the plains by the late rains; and he consequently turned back, after a fatiguing journey of two hundred and fifty miles, during which he was exposed to great heat, and in his anxiety to accomplish what he knew was desirable had almost exceeded the bounds of prudence as regarded his personal safety. Both he and Mr. Browne, whom I sent with him, in consequence of his having been with me in the same direction, returned a good deal fatigued from this long excursion.

I had, in the mean time, moved the party over the ranges to the plains, and had encamped on a creek, about ninety miles in advance from our late station. As it was clear we could not hope to find water in the sandy deserts into which we had penetrated, I sent Mr. Poole, on the 11th December, to the north, directing him to keep nearer in to the ranges, with a view to his crossing any creeks issuing from them. On this occasion he gained lat. 29. 14., and succeeded in finding considerable supplies of water in several creeks which he intersected. During Mr. Poole's absence, I made an excursion of from eighty to ninety miles to the eastward, to ascertain the nature of the country on both sides of me as I proceeded northwards, but with no favourable result.

On Mr. Poole's return, I moved on the party, and on the 11th of January arrived at a long water-hole, in a creek, to which the creek on which we have subsequently formed our *Dépôt* is a tributary.

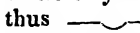
On the 14th of the month, I left the camp with a party of two men, and proceeded with Mr. Browne to the north. Mr. Poole attended me the first day, who was to return on the following day, and in the event of our finding water, was to have moved the party to it during my absence; but as we were not so fortunate, I directed him, on his return home, to examine a creek a little to the westward of our line, when he was gradually drawn to *this* creek, on which we have found a secure and undisturbed asylum since the 27th of January last. In the mean time, I crossed a remarkable group of hills, which proved to be the terminating group to the north, although they extended in broken and irregular masses to the eastward. From a small peak in this group, we saw two small hills, on a bearing of 316 degrees, distant from forty to forty-five miles: I therefore descended again to the plains, and hoping to obtain a good view of the interior from their summit, I made at once for them. At about six miles from the hills we entered a scrub, and at seven miles found a supply of water in a small creek, but none afterwards. Soon after entering the scrub, we got into a country alternating, as before, with long narrow flats and sandy ridges; but they were here

destitute of cypresses ; and this kind of country continued to the hills, which we reached at sunset.

We could see nothing from their most elevated point but a universal scrub. From the S.W. to the N.E. the horizon was unbroken, and the view direct to the north was over as gloomy and as forbidding a region as man ever gazed upon. Both on our way to these hills, and on our return from them, we experienced the most oppressive heat among the ridges of sand. The wind blew in our faces with the constancy and intensity of a hot blast from a furnace, insomuch that we had a difficulty in breathing so rarified an atmosphere. On the 20th, we returned to the ranges, and thence to the camp, where, to my utter astonishment, I found the water I had left in the tanks entirely evaporated, and Mr. Poole drawing his supplies from a well ; but the fortunate discovery he had made on his way home enabled me at once to move the party to a place of permanent security ; for our consumption of water at this time was at the rate of from a thousand to eleven hundred gallons a day, with the thermometer in a mean of 107 degrees at two p.m. in the shade. I had, up to this period, had to look as well to our retreat as to our advance, and to provide for both ; but I was now enabled to cast all anxiety as regarded our retreat from my mind, since Providence had guided us, we now knew, to the only spot in these dry and desolate regions which could have supplied our wants ; and it was the necessity that existed for our making out such a place of safety, that obliged us to the repeated and fatiguing journeys to which I have drawn His Excellency's attention.

It was about this time—the end of January—that Mr. Poole, Mr. Browne, and myself began to feel the effects of scurvy. We had sore and almost ulcerated gums, violent headaches, a constant coppery taste in the mouth, with other symptoms of that virulent disease : I had constant, though not profuse, bleeding at the nose. We attributed this attack to our having been obliged, on our rapid journeys, to use salt meat, when weakened by the intense heat of the season ; but as we took every precaution to check the disorder, we hoped it would have forsaken us.

Feeling dissatisfied at the result of my last journey to the north, and both Mr. Poole and Mr. Browne being too unwell for active duties, I determined again to push into the interior in that direction, to ascertain, if possible, the nature and extent of the desert there. Accordingly, on the 8th of February, I again left the camp, attended by Mr. Stuart, my draftsman ; Flood, my stockman ; and Joseph Colley, an excellent young man I have with me, whose moral courage and feeling I had every reason to think would support him in the event of his being tried in any way. My plan was, to proceed to the most distant water of which I knew, to the north ; there to leave Mr. Stuart to sketch in the ranges, and Flood to take charge of my horse ; to take a supply of water in the light cart, and to push on foot with Joseph into the desert, in the hope that I should sooner or later arrive at or see some change of country. Having arrived at the water-holes, we filled up our casks ; and on the morning of the 11th, we proceeded on our journey, leaving

Mr. Stuart and Flood as I had proposed. I pursued a course of 5 degrees the west of north, which took me to the right of the hills on which I had been with Mr. Browne. We soon got into a country such as I have already described. As we advanced, however, the flats became narrower, and the sandy ridges appeared closer, succeeding each other like the waves of a tempestuous sea. There was, at the first, a little grass on the flats; but at length they became sandy, and the ridges less elevated. It appeared, indeed, that the ridges had been levelled by successive gales of wind, and had filled up the hollows. The whole region was now sand, on which *spuriifex* alone was growing, if I except a few stunted *hakea* bushes that were scattered about; so that if I had not brought a few oats with me for the horse, he would have starved. On the 13th, at noon, my observations and reckoning placed me in latitude 28. 11. 15., and at this point my horse failed. I therefore took him out of the cart, and with Joseph walked to a distance of from twelve to thirteen miles, as I wished, if possible, to pass the 28th meridian. I was then nearly abreast of Moreton Bay in point of latitude, more than two hundred miles to the westward of the Darling, and in longitude 141. 22., as near as I could judge; and yet, as I looked around me from the top of a small sandhill I had ascended, I could see no change in the terrible desert into which I had penetrated. The horizon was unbroken by a single mound, from north round to north again, and it was as level as that of the ocean. My view to the north extended about eight miles; but I did not venture to compass that distance, only perhaps to have overlooked a similar heart-rending and desolate scene. I turned my back, therefore, upon it, and returned to the cart, and the next day pushed on for the water-holes, which I reached on the 16th, at sunset, with great difficulty. On coming to this water-hole, I had kept to the left of my former line across the ranges, and I had observed that a creek, which I had been led to believe exhausted itself in the plains to the eastward, did not really do so, but continued, with some promise, to the westward. This creek I desired Flood to examine during my absence, and he now informed me that he thought it worthy my further scrutiny. I therefore left Joseph with the cart, and, taking Mr. Stuart and Flood with me, rode down the creek, the first day to a distance of thirty miles, when we arrived at two large water-holes—at which a number of natives had been only a day or two before—in which but little water now remained; and at these we stopped and slept. The next morning, in tracing the creek down, we found that at about a mile it spread over an immense flat. With some difficulty we recovered its channel again, and traced it for about eight miles through a narrow but well-wooded valley; its general course having led us somewhat to the southward of west. At eight miles, it appeared suddenly to terminate against an embankment of white clay and sand. There was, however, a gap in this embankment, thus  over which, it immediately struck me, the superfluous waters are carried off. On ascending this embankment, we saw beneath us a beautiful enclosure of about seven miles* in circumference, fenced in by this bank. It was studded with fine trees, and covered with

grass. By a reference to the chart, our position, as far as I can lay it down from rough bearings, being in lat. 28. 6. 30., and in long. 140. 44., His Excellency will observe that we had again entered the Province; and it may be worthy of remark, that the richest piece of land we have found has been within its boundaries. It is into this enclosure that the creek falls; and having satisfied myself that it also terminates in it, I rode on to the N.W.; but I was driven back from the want of water, and because neither could my men nor horses bear up against the intense heat to which we were exposed. Flood complained that the crown of his head was burning, and the animals drooped as if overcome by extreme drowsiness. I stopped, therefore, to take shelter under a *hakca* bush until the heat of the day should have subsided, and then returned to the water we had left in the morning, and the next day regained the hills. It may give His Excellency some idea of the heat to which we were exposed, when I assure you that I found the thermometer which I had left with Joseph, and which was fixed in the shade of a large tree, four feet from the ground, stationary at 135 degrees of Fahrenheit at half-past two P.M., and that in the direct rays of the sun it rose to 157 degrees. It had, on a former occasion, when Mr. Browne was with me, stood at 132 degrees in the shade, and 153 degrees in the sun.

I returned from this excursion with the full conviction on my mind that I had twice been within fifty, perhaps thirty, miles of an inland sea. It was, in truth, impossible that such a country as that into which I had penetrated, from which the very birds of the air shrank away, should continue much further; but whether such really was the case, remains yet to be ascertained.

It may not be necessary for me to detail to His Excellency, for the information of Lord Stanley, the several minor excursions, of from eighty to ninety miles, that I have made to examine the country, and to break our confinement. We have been locked up here as securely as if we had wintered at the Poles, and have remained till we have been deserted by every beast of the field, and by every fowl of the air. We have witnessed migration after migration to that point to which I have ever looked for success; and every observation I have made, and every occurrence that has taken place, has tended to confirm the impressions I had received of the nature and character of the interior. So far, however, from repining at our position, we have only to be thankful to Providence, in that we have been guided to the only spot in these lonely and desolate regions, in which we could have remained with safety.

We had seen very few natives, but our kindness to those few has been such that I had hoped it would have engendered a confidence; but they have not dared to approach us. Aware that there was a general scarcity of water in the country, I could not but think that we were putting them to great inconvenience by occupying so important a post. I had found a large sheet of water at the termination of a large creek near us; and, in hopes that I should have found nearly the whole of the population of these regions assembled there, I rode with Mr. Browne to it, but was disappointed in finding any number of

natives; and it was clear that they were dispersed at the different water-holes that remained unexhausted, in families, as the country is too poor to maintain any number of inhabitants in any one place. One family, indeed, came in from the south whilst we were at this water; having been driven in from the failure of their own supplies.

About three weeks ago, a solitary native came to the camp, and remained with us for a week. He was a stranger, from the northward and westward, and spoke a different language to the natives hereabouts. What led him to wander to the hills it is impossible to say; but it almost appeared as if he had been sent to encourage us. He guessed the use of the boat the moment he saw it, and pointed to the north-west as the quarter in which we should go. He examined the sheep-netting, and putting his head to the meshes, intimated to us by signs that the fish we should find were too large to get through them. He recognised the turtle, the hippocampus, and several sea-fish, figured in Cuvier's plates, naming them respectively; but he put his fingers on all the others, and gave them a general name. From these facts, His Excellency and the Secretary of State will be enabled to judge of the prospects before us. Putting my observations and these together, I cannot but think that we are within one hundred and fifty or two hundred miles of some remarkable feature; but whether a river or a sea, it is impossible to say.

On my progress up the Darling, I reduced the allowance of flour from ten to eight pounds a-week. In February, I reduced it to six pounds, with a corresponding reduction in the other articles of consumption; and in March I again reduced the flour to five pounds; below which I should be reluctant to go. These measures have left me with a supply to the present date of twenty-six weeks' provisions; but as, in the event of our finding any sea or river, that time—twelve weeks of which would necessarily be occupied in our homeward return—would be too limited to enable me to prosecute any important discovery, I have therefore determined on sending a third of my party back to Adelaide, under the charge of Mr. Poole, whose strength has, I am sorry to say, failed him. I should, under such circumstances, have adopted this plan, however much I might have felt the loss of Mr. Poole's services. This reduction in the number of my party will give me an additional supply of provisions for two months, with which I shall have it in my power to advance into the heart of the interior. I trust that Lord Stanley will approve this step: it will only put the Government to the expense of wages for nine men, not including the officers, for the period we may stay out over and above the year. I could not bring myself to abandon the enterprise in so advanced and prosperous a stage; and I have been influenced both by a sense of duty, and an anxious desire to push my investigations to the utmost, in the measures I have adopted.

The chart I have forwarded to the Secretary of State is a rough chart of our course, in which I should wish it to be understood that I have not definitively laid down my positions; an operation I shall not be able satisfactorily to do, until my return to Adelaide. I forward the

present sketch as an approximation only to the truth, that the Right Hon. the Secretary of State may be aware of the position we occupy to within a few miles; and I am happy to think that into a more favourable position we could not have fallen, as the first rains that fall will enable me to move up at once between eighty and ninety miles to the north-west, when I shall have Lake Torrens close upon my lee, and the wide expanse of the interior before me.

When I left Moorundee, I took a black boy, attached to Mr. Eyre, on the strength of my party, who has had charge of the sheep, and who has taken the utmost care of them, insomuch that we have not lost one. As he will return with Mr. Poole, I shall feel obliged if His Excellency will sanction such reward to him, in the shape of clothing and implements, as he may think he deserves. I have also to call His Excellency's attention to the two natives who accompanied me up the Darling, Nadbuck and Loonda. Both were of infinite service to me; and it is probable they will now escort Mr. Poole down the river, and that I shall again have occasion for their services on my return. I have therefore to beg that they may be rewarded with a suit of warm clothing, and with such implements as they most value, and that the amount may be charged against the funds of the Expedition; and I would beg to refer His Excellency to Mr. Poole, who is aware of the wants of the natives, and who would point out what would be most useful to them.

I am happy to state that the men are all in good health, that they have been attentive to their duties, and that they are justly entitled to my praise.

To Mr. Stuart I am indebted for the great attention he pays to his duties, and for the general assistance he affords me.

Mr. Piesse, my storekeeper, has been exceedingly careful with the provisions, and to him I owe the perfect order in which they are. I believe, indeed, that I cannot say more for the general good conduct of the party, than by stating that we have not had an accident or a casualty attributable to the neglect of the men.

I have already informed you that about the end of January both my officers and myself were attacked with scurvy. The symptoms did not increase either on me or on Mr. Browne, although they have not abated; but in Mr. Poole's case they became exceedingly aggravated. He became daily worse and worse; the disease settled in his principal muscles; his skin turned black, and he at length lost the use of his limbs. He took to his couch on the 26th of April, and has not since risen from it. Both Mr. Browne and myself were at one time much alarmed about him, but I am happy to say that he has rallied, and that his general health is improving, although his limbs still refuse their office.

To Mr. Poole I am indebted for the most active co-operation at all times, and for an anxiety for the success of the expedition, which has been infinitely to his credit; whilst he has carried on his professional duties with an exactness and accuracy that entitle him to my best thanks. It will therefore be with extreme regret that I shall witness

his departure, and in the sincere hope that he will speedily recover from a malady to which his zeal alone has subjected him.

To Mr. Browne I feel indebted for his great attention to the health of the men as the medical officer of the expedition, and for the cheerful assistance he gives me in every department in which he can make himself useful.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

CHAS. STURT.

To the Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

Sir,—It is my painful duty to announce to you, for His Excellency's information, the death of Mr. James Poole ; which sad event took place on the 14th instant, between two and three o'clock.

Mr. Poole had commenced his journey the day before, as I have already notified to you, with every prospect of amendment before him.

Although weak, he had shaken off his original disease, and had for some time been rallying, and it appeared that a change of diet was all that was necessary to his perfect restoration to health, so that his return was no less necessary to himself than to the public service.

Mr. Browne, who has watched over him for the last three months with the most unremitting care and attention, accompanied him for the first day, and returned to me on the 15th, with every expectation that he would gradually improve as he proceeded homewards ; but in the afternoon the lad who attended him returned to us with the unexpected intelligence that he had suddenly expired, almost without a struggle, between two and three o'clock the same day.

I rode back to the party this morning with Mr. Browne, who seems to entertain no doubt that Mr. Poole's sudden death was caused by internal hæmorrhage.

This unhappy event will detain me a day or two, as it is my wish to inter his remains at the depôt. It will be a consolation to Mr. Poole's friends to know that everything was done for him that could be done. Nothing could exceed Mr. Browne's attention to him from first to last ; and there can be no doubt Mr. Poole would have recovered, under his judicious treatment, if he had not been taken off by a stroke against which no human skill could guard.

It appearing indispensable to me that the party should still proceed, I have given the charge of it to Mr. Piesse, my storekeeper, with whom I part with regret, for he has been of the most essential service to me, and has merited my best recommendations as a most conscientious and rigid person, and I would therefore, very respectfully, recommend him to His Excellency's notice.

* * * * *

In consequence of the sad event I have notified to you, it remains for me to request that you will express to the Governor the obligations I

shall feel under, if His Excellency will give such instructions, in reference to the forwarding of the supplies, as he may consider necessary.

* * * * *

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

CHAS. STURT.

To the Hon. the Colonial Secretary,
&c. &c. &c.

[We append some extracts from a letter written by the gallant Captain to a private friend, which, though necessarily containing some repetitions, we think will be read with interest.

We are glad to find that an increase to the numerical force of Captain Sturt's party had been recommended in the Colony, since the probability is, that the further he advances to the northward, and especially when he gets within the tropics, he will meet with native tribes more numerous, possessing more muscular strength, and less peaceable dispositions, than those with whom he has yet come in contact.]

"Dear ———, I returned disheartened to the camp from the extended view over a sea of scrub (as mentioned in the public despatches), and, to my dismay, found all the water I had left gone, and Poole drawing his supplies from a well. I had, however, requested him to examine some small hills to our left, and providentially he found an abundant supply of water in a rocky creek there: I consequently moved the party to it on the 27th January, since which time it has been stationary. Until the discovery of this water I had had to provide as well for our retreat as for our advance, as our consumption was at the rate of 1100 gallons a-day. I trembled indeed for the success of the Expedition in such a dry and desert region, in which the power of the sun was terrific, and the beds of all the water-courses were of gravel and sand, so that both the evaporation and the absorption were most rapid. I had now, however, no further cause for anxiety as regarded our permanent safety, and, therefore, turned my attention and efforts to the means of getting on. About this time, Poole, Browne, and myself were attacked with the scurvy, that abomination of the sailor. We attributed this to our being weakened by the intense heat to which we had been exposed. Ulcerated gums, violent headaches, pains in the limbs, and, with me, constant bleeding at the nose. Both my companions were too unwell for active duties, but I still kept on my legs, and being dissatisfied with my last journey to the north, I determined on going there again, better prepared to push my way; my plan was to take Mr. Stuart and Flood, whom I dare say you know, with a lad whose moral courage I thought would enable him to pass through any trial to which I might put him. I accordingly left the camp on the 8th February, and gained the farthest water of which I was aware to the north on the 10th. On the 11th I filled up the water-casks in the light cart, and leaving Stuart

to sketch in the ranges and Flood to take care of my horse during my absence, I set off on foot with my man Friday to penetrate into the scrub as far as I could. It was terrifically hot, and the water we had to drink was as thick as mud, and stank most abominably. I soon got into a country alternating with long narrow flats and sandy ridges; but there was a little grass on the flats, and some few trees on the sandhills; as I advanced, the one became narrower and the other closer, following each other like waves; at length the whole country became sand—the sandhills appeared as if they had been levelled by successive gales of wind, trees and grass disappeared, and the whole of the land was matted with spurifex. On the 13th I was in lat. 28. 10. 00., and here my horse, Frew's Punch, knocked up, so I took him out of the cart and tethered him, and started off with my man Friday to cross the 28th meridian. Having walked from twelve to thirteen miles, I stopped, and getting on a sandhill, looked round me on such a scene of desolation as you never saw. The horizon was as level as that of the ocean; not a hill, not a mound was to be seen, nor was there the slightest change in the aspect of the terrible desert I had entered. There was a cadaverous hue over the whole that sickened me; no black soil, no bright green, but yellow sand, and the glasseous hue of the spurifex. The silence of death reigned around me; an awful situation, I may say.

"I had no alternative but to turn back; and it was well I did, for Punch would not have stood another day. We reached the water on the 16th, and leaving my man Friday with the cart, I mounted my horse, and went away to the westward and traced a creek to its termination, but was again beaten back from the want of water; however, I found an admirable position, to which I intend to move with the first rains; I shall then be in lat. 29. 6. 00., and long. 144. 44. 00.—shall have Lake Torrens under my lee, and the broad desert before me. I feel satisfied we are within 150 miles of an inland sea.

"I cannot think it is a river, and although we have been detained here so long, our prospects are as fair as they can be.

"I send Poole back with a third of the men, and shall not myself return until February, and I shall hope by that time to have had a pretty good peep behind the scenes.

"As far as the country goes through which we have passed, it is nothing but a desert; although if we find a better country within a reasonable distance, it would do as a line of communication, but not your spurifex affair.

"I have requested that a dray may be sent to meet me on the Darling in December, and shall hope to hear from you by it."

With respect to Captain Sturt's authorised instructions, we gather that one of the objects to be attempted by him was "to ascertain the supposed existence of a range of mountains traversing the continent from N.E. to S.W."

A NEW SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT AND REPRESENTATION IN PARLIAMENT FOR THE COLONIES.

To the Editor of the "Colonial Magazine."

SIR,—I deem it my duty to draw your attention to the present unsettled aspect of the Colonial relations of Great Britain, as every Dependency of that mighty power is convulsed by misgovernment and internal faction.

I need not point to the daily meetings in Van Diemen's Land, to petition against the probation system and taxation; or to New Zealand, a wreck through misgovernment; or Australia, in convulsions about the Land Sales Act, the District Councils Bill, and increased taxation, as well as the unfair duty imposed on Australian wheat in England: at the Cape almost constant internal war, in Canada civil dissension; in New Brunswick, the best land has been ceded to the United States, and the Colonists are dissatisfied, &c.; in Nova Scotia the agitation for Responsible Government is kept up, and in almost every Colony there is cause for complaint.

It is useless to enumerate Colonial grievances, for they exist almost everywhere, and immigration is stopped. The cry is for a Responsible Government—that is, for a Government responsible to the Colonists. It is utterly impossible that one man can rule thirty Dependencies, about whose wants and capabilities he can know nothing but through his nominee; and every person of sense will see that there is reason on the side of the Colonists, when they demand a Responsible Government. A great and vitally-important point has, however, to be considered, on which all political economists have wrecked their arguments. If the Colonists be responsible for their own government, can they be termed Colonists, or would not their country be a free State? or, to express my meaning in clearer language, if the Colonial Office sends the Governor of a Colony orders to perform certain acts, and the Local Legislature orders him not to obey these directions, he must either obey the one or the other, no middle course being open: if he obey the Colonial Office, he is irresponsible to the Colonists; if he obey them, he commits treason, and lays himself open to impeachment by the Imperial Parliament.

The plan I propose is, to give the Colonial Houses of Representation power to elect their own Governors; and let them be compelled to exercise this power every three or five years. Let every Colony be also

represented in the Imperial Parliament by an official Agent,* with the title of "Ambassador" or "Chargé d'Affaires, who, of course, would sit in the House of Commons the same as any other member; and however slight the influence of such persons might be individually, it would not be despicable collectively; for they would soon raise up a gigantic Colonial interest, backed by the most intelligent men in the House of Commons. By this plan, every Colony would have the control of both its ordinary and territorial revenue without any restriction. The despatches would not, however, go and come direct through the Colonial Office, but emanate from the Colonial Chargé d'Affaires, and a Committee of the House of Commons, addressed to the Governors and Local Legislatures of the various Colonies. Every Act passed by the Colonial Houses of Legislature would have to be forwarded to the Imperial Parliament, to be ratified by it; but no Act of the Imperial Parliament should be passed, for any Colony or Dependency of Britain, without having first passed the Colonial Legislature of the said Colony.

Every port in the British Colonies to be declared a free British port.† Such duties as the Colonial Legislature have deemed most suitable, to be imposed on articles from foreign countries; but no port dues, with the exception of charges for a pilot, and a rate for maintaining a light-house, if it be deemed necessary, to be charged on any trading vessel.

There is another important matter. At present all the patronage of the Colonies is in the hands of the Colonial Office. I do not mean to say that Lord Stanley‡ has ever made a bad use of this patronage; on the contrary, I know he has often bestowed places in the Colonies on deserving men in humble circumstances, and this does him honour; but I assert that it is a burning shame to place English favourites in Colonial situations, while the sons* of the Colonists, whose exertions produce the means of supporting these offices, are not even allowed to enter into fair competition with these foreign favourites. I also affirm, that this circumstance crushes the energies of the young Colonists: they see themselves born for no higher aim than to till the soil—this is the most honourable of all callings, but young men frequently prefer other occupations and professions, and it is a shame to deprive them of the chance of obtaining such situations as in right ought to belong to them. The whole of the offices and patronage of the Colonies ought to be placed in the hands of the popular Legislatures and Governors.

The manner in which the Colonial Magistrates are elected is also anything but creditable; for the various Governors are always ready

* This plan might be carried out by the selection of a Member of Parliament as Agent for the Colony, as in the case of Mr. Scott, M.P., Agent for New South Wales.—EDITOR.

† This is already being done: witness the Cape, Adelaide, New Zealand, &c.—ED.

‡ This was written before Lord Stanley left office.—ED.

to forward their own protégés, and crush others, however respectable and talented, who are too independent to do as they wish. Great alterations would require to be made in the mode of appointing and selecting Magistrates.

There are at present, in Colonies that enjoy a popular Legislature, an Executive Council, which is composed of the Governor, the Bishop (if there be such a dignitary), the Colonial Secretary and Treasurer. These functionaries are, as a matter of course, mere echoes of the Governor, who has them completely in his power, and are worth no further notice.

Never did so much dissatisfaction exist in all the Colonies, and in many of them sedition is talked openly by persons in all ranks. It is my firm belief that unless Britain be quick in reforming the abuses which exist in the management of her Colonies, the most important of them will throw off her yoke. The sooner she remodels the constitution of each, the better; for there are bounds which must not be passed, even when loyal men are the victims. I must defer entering on the grand subject of Immigration until a future opportunity.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

THOS. M'COMBIE.

Melbourne,
Port Phillip, 20th August, 1845.

IMPORTS AND DELIVERIES, FOR HOME USE AND EXPORTATION, OF THE STAPLE ARTICLES OF COLONIAL PRODUCE,

*In the Twelve Months of 1843, 1844, and 1845; * with the Stocks on Hand 30th of December of each Year.*

SUGAR.															No- lasses		COFFEE.				
The Deliveries for Export of those Articles which are free, are included under the Head of Home Consumption.																					
West India.		Mauri- tius.	Bengal, Madras.	Siam, Java, and Ceylon.	Havan- nah.	Brazil.	Porto Rico and Foreign W. I.		B. P.		Ceylon.	Mocha.	Other Sorts at 4d. per lb	Foreign.							
Hhds.	Pieces.	Bags, &c.	Casks & Bags.	Bags, &c.	Chests, &c.	Chests, and Bags.	Hhds.	Brls.	Casks.	Casks and Bags.	Bags.	Bales.	Bags.	Casks & Bags.							
Imported { 1845 95095		10158 452240	492587	114881	10150 51508	14077	10869	13186 5319	13845 3987	2604 121632	12889	44728	459	44575							
in twelve { 1844 85013		8568 311993	438533	119393	9640 66479	12094	1863	1440 418	24034 5735	6177 111077	9664	34502	394	36320							
months .. { 1843 81164		10244 238089	318913	50188	6437 95415	9670	4612	6490 1280	15061 5585	2318 69550	10719	27774	1092	53723							
Delivered { 1845 95608		9938 427103	511053	37599	3279 15	1	59	200 522	16378 4574	2767 106843	10261	14593	356	23100							
for H. C. { 1844 84258		8763 290798	352446	30	4	1	..	6	1855 5530	3461 83976	8025	19235	244	18331							
in ditto * { 1843 79069		9761 227085	329382	843	147	..	..	67 20	11995 5775	3038 70287	6480	30140	512	6987					
Delivered { 1845 475		61 1535	3243	164629	8600 77127	10563	7613	5546 2120	548 1101539	2625	1735	53992	246	44168							
for Export { 1844 488		11 2541	5219	99735	8036 52815	9987	2463	2461 682	1037 841062	5927	1672	10417	97	12094							
in ditto .. { 1843 505		47 191	1140	66302	6322 58596	8229	3090	7029 821	248 70 228	883	1080	28833	480	26429							
Stock, 30th { 1845 12790		1265 35432	94042	27743	3732 29897	7765	4140	8075 3083	7247 2861	12922 81184	11556	103545	1025	39223							
December { 1844 13799		1358 31896	113943	15429	5452 55345	4252	967	961 760	10350 3516	3724 69120	10566	128099	567	61821							
{ 1843 13613		1664 24073	56524	69581	.. 49255	2521	1611	.. ..	4757 3768	1441 48841	9640	125713	405	60813						

Imports and Deliveries of the Staple Articles of Colonial Produce, &c.—continued.

	Cocoa.		Rum.	Pi- mento.	Pepper.		Ginger.		Casia Lignea. na- mon.	Cloves.	Mace and Wild.	Rice.		Indigo	Salt- petre.	Ni- tre Soda.	Co- chi- neal.	Log- wood	Fus- tic.			
	B. P.	Fo- reign.			Black.	Whi.	W. I.	E. I.				B. P.	Foreign.							E. I.		
	Cake & Baga. Baga.			Baga.		Baga.	Cake. &c.	Baga.		Chests.	Paga.	Paga.	Baga.	Chests.	Tons.	Tons. &c.	Tons.	Tons.				
Imported { 1844 in twelve months .. {	16362	5757	24249	7894	21092	80603	3208	6033	8165	17136	9847	3277	304	1341	173794	5713	37505	10303	3196	6942	6588	1887
	12223	4488	16902	3988	2408	60705	2123	4619	6101	18837	9307	2052	264	700	127876	69112	36827	6729	3049	7368	6969	1267
	6240	2278	20906	6371	18649	37840	3861	2883	5162	36396	4026	824	163	683	136319	35125	21798	11404	2721	6444	6118	2645
Delivered { for H. C. { in ditto .. {	10594	1291	11336	2833	3557	30249	2861	4000	7938	1622	9846	1325	186	859	110249	4684	25902	9301	3421	6521	6925	1605
	11815	581	10269	2366	2378	23525	2122	3128	6964	2593	917	1164	220	677	113415	1318	11731	7058	1692	4085	3709	1549
	10663	38	10081	5682	2810	21164	2257	3529	5996	3813	559	834	150	565	59818	1147	7746	8305	1800	4142	5308	1422
Delivered { for Export { in ditto .. {	645	2989	10395	7723	17750	61844	981	89	11741	18523	6052	2908	280	173	75966	27303	..	..	..	..	..	..
	416	8075	9159	5221	5112	34923	345	88	3647	21167	6817	704	108	110	55683	79821	19315	1485	375	4472	1244	747
	1183	2591	9588	6802	19853	22104	611	13	7067	26502	3724	87	60	138	74648	29699	14140	1900	669	2430	1564	638
Stock, 30th { 1844 December {	9803	3785	14496	1864	3836	71523	6240	4530	21735	4081	5516	2153	431	1037	41461	3932	33512	2981	2156	3269	1559	311
	4740	2285	11912	1870	3689	83033	7421	2687	33224	2609	4205	3019	508	692	53675	18964	25975	1985	2491	2696	1679	578
	4947	6594	15378	9211	8437	82114	7810	1597	58937	7539	2608	2609	448	537	93510	23629	21867	3686	1394	3634	2471	1716

THE SAGUENAY RIVER, AND THE SHORES OF THE ST. LAWRENCE.

[WE have found so much useful information in the following abstract from the Report of Mr. Papineau, the Commissioner of Crown Lands, on his journey to the Saguenay, that we have thought it desirable to republish it.—EDITOR.]

*To His Excellency Lord Metcalfe, Governor-General of Canada,
&c. &c. &c.*

MY LORD,—Being lately returned from an excursion to the Saguenay and the south shore of the River St. Lawrence, from River du Loup up to Point Levy, it is my duty to report to your Lordship the results of my observations, and the opinion I have formed of what should be done by the Executive or by the Legislature of this Province, in order to afford to a great number of Her Majesty's subjects, in that and adjoining parts of the country, that protection to which they are entitled as a portion of this community.

Having failed in my endeavours to procure the company of A. N. Morin, Esq., or of Mr. D. E. Papineau, my son, a public notary of this city, each of whom I had the approbation of your Lordship to take with me, and considering that my excursion would be more useful to the public by having with me a gentleman of intelligence with whom I could consult and confer about the several subjects which could not but come under my observation, I addressed myself, on my arrival at Quebec, to F. R. Angers, Esq., a practising advocate of the Bar of that city, requesting him to come with me. He cheerfully consented, on being made acquainted with the views of Your Excellency and the objects of my visit. His company was most useful to me. Being a gentleman of standing in his profession, well acquainted with all men of influence in the lower part of the District of Quebec, he introduced me to many of them; and by their means, I obtained all required information. I was also accompanied, as far as Chicoutimi, by Mr. Kune, the Crown Land Agent for the interior of the County of Saguenay, and by the Honourable Mr. De Laterrière, the Representative of the County. I must here acknowledge my obligations to these gentlemen.

Your Excellency is aware that the country watered by the River Saguenay, being a part of the tract of country called the King's Post, was formerly, with the rest of that tract, leased to Mr. Gouldie, ship-builder of Quebec; the lease was made for twenty-one years, and expired on the 1st of October, 1842. During the continuation of that lease, the Provincial Government, though often applied to, would not consent to order any survey of lands for settlement in that tract, under

the impression, I think, that it had not the right so to do. In the month of June 1842, another lease of that tract was made for a like period, to commence on the 2nd day of October, 1842, to the Honourable Hudson's Bay Company, with the express reserve and condition that the Government would, at any time it thought proper, survey and grant or sell lands for actual settlement and cultivation, &c. Before the execution of that lease, some people had already begun to squat on the lands so leased. In 1843, orders were given by the proper authorities to survey several townships in this tract, both on the St. Lawrence and the Saguenay. The people of the parishes below Quebec, who had in several instances petitioned for lands, were led to believe that these lands would soon be thrown open for settlement. Some individuals had already entered into a partnership to build saw-mills and begin settlements. After proceeding for a short time in their enterprise, they sold their interests to Wm. Price, Esq., and Co., of Quebec. That gentleman carried on his operations with energy and care, and has now many large saw-mill establishments, whereby he has been enabled, last year and this, to load with deals sixty ships, or more. These operations could not be carried on without great cost, capital, and labour. Provisions, stores, cattle, horses—even provender and hay—had to be drawn hither from other parts of the Province, and re-carried by water. A great number of the poorer farmers in the parishes bordering on the St. Lawrence, almost reduced to ruin by a continuation of several years' failure of their crops, resorted there to earn their and their families' livelihood, by working either at the mills or other works there erecting, or in the forest to cut and bring timber to be sawed. The failure of crops above mentioned put it out of the power of most of the common farmers to provide work for a large class of agricultural labourers depending on others' farm-work to live by. These also were by necessity compelled to resort to the Saguenay. They first began to settle near the mills, and then upon the neighbouring unsurveyed land, extending themselves farther and farther as the number of new-comers increased. But in so doing they placed themselves where they thought fit, without system or order whatever; often they crowded together, beginning their clearings and improvements without any regard to the position of those who preceded them. During that time the lands were being surveyed, but unhappily the Surveyors, perhaps unwisely, adhering too strictly to their instructions, expended a great deal of time in surveying and dividing into lots, townships almost totally unfit for settlement and cultivation; and when at last they came to work in a better sort of country, they found the place squatted on in so irregular a manner, that it was found next to impossible to make the survey on the original plan furnished them: they had to make report of these circumstances, and wait for further and new instructions. That created a new delay, and during that time the squatters continued to locate themselves in the same irregular manner, as many as four or five working on the same lot, but in different places and directions. By the information I have been able to collect, and by what I have seen, I am led to believe that very near *three thousand families* are now squatting in the County of Saguenay.

By far the greater number of them have neither horses, oxen, nor cows, nor the means of purchasing them—much less could they purchase the lands they are settled on. Some have made considerable clearings—have sowed grain of all kinds to a comparatively large amount, having no other tool to put in their seed with but their hoes, no other help than their own hands. They have to carry their fuel on their backs, as well as their provisions, and in winter to draw them on hand sleighs. Yet they must, and indeed they do, work to earn the subsistence and clothing of themselves and families; and it is only during the interval of the labour they are forced by their poverty to make for others, that they can work on their lands. They are separated from the other settled parts of the Province very near a hundred miles by water. By land, their nearest way is by what is called the (intended) Bagot road, which is full sixty-six miles long, through a wild, never-to-be-settled country, and through which if a road were once made, at a heavy expense, it would soon become impassible for want of people and means to keep it in repair.

In order, then, to give regularity to the settlements and correct the evils inherent to such a state of things, I would humbly suggest—

1. That legislative enactments be made, so that titles should be granted to these people under certain regulations, the details of which belong to the department I have the honour to be at the head of, and which it is useless to speak of now. But instead of paying cash for their lands, they should have them for a given price, not exceeding three shillings per acre for the present, a quit-rent representing the interest of the capital to be paid annually and redeemable at their option by instalments not less than two pounds ten shillings each. The condition of actual settlement and residence should be rigorously enforced. Of course, as by some instructions given by the Crown Land Department to some of the Agents, the price of land was fixed in one place at two shillings, in another at two shillings and sixpence, with the understanding that cash was to be paid, all those who would be able to comply with that condition should have the benefit of it.

2. The Executive should, by law, have the right, from time to time, to give up to the local municipalities, for local purposes, a certain portion of the rent due by the poorer proprietors, in order to enable these debtors to pay their rents in labour, to be accounted for by the municipal councils; thereby preventing the discouraging accumulation of rents.

3. The Crown Land Agent should immediately be ordered to reside within the limits of his jurisdiction. Indeed, he expects it. But as the usual commission allowed to the Crown Land Agents, accruing from the sale of lands and timber licences, would not, for some time to come, be sufficient to remunerate him for his pains, work and trouble, I would suggest the propriety of allowing him, out of the Crown Land Department's funds, an annual and fixed salary, to begin with his actual residence in the place.

4. A Judicial District, with a resident Judge having sufficient and competent jurisdiction to decide cases, as in the District of St. Francis,

should be erected there; the Judge to hold Circuit Courts at given times in the several townships or settlements, as, from time to time, the Executive would direct. I leave it to others to decide whether the Judge should not be made a Judge of the Queen's Bench.

5. The Legislature should advance a sum of money sufficient to build a Court-house and Gaol in the new District, the costs of which would be reimbursed, with time, by fees or judicial proceedings. Chicoutimi would seem the most proper place for the site of such Court-house, as the country west and north-west of it seems to be fit for settlement and cultivation, particularly towards Lake St. John. In a very few years it would become the centre of the settlements.

6. Magistrates should be appointed as soon as possible in that part; also Commissioners for the trial of small causes when prayed for. But as that Court cannot be prayed for except by proprietors, no time should be lost in making them such. Indeed, until that is done, they must be deprived of the advantages to be derived from the late municipality and education laws, of the right of voting at elections for a Member of Parliament—in a word, of the benefit of all the laws requiring the possession of real property.

7. Not only to the settlers in the County of Saguenay should the lands be sold for a moderate redeemable quit-rent, but that should be the case throughout the Province. From the first settlement of the country, until a recent period, the inhabitants of Lower Canada were enabled to get lands from the Seigniors for a small unredeemable annual rent; the Seigniors holding their seigniories as in trust, the lands whereof being by them to be granted to settlers on certain conditions regulated both by law and their titles. It is true that for some years past many Seigniors have, unwarrantably, in my humble opinion, raised the rate of their rents. It was in the power of Government to remedy that evil by many means; and, among others, by constantly keeping in the market a sufficient quantity of the waste lands of the Crown, divided in convenient lots for settlement, to answer the wants and demands of the population, and rigorously enforcing the necessity of actual settlement and residence. It is true that during some time lands were given in free grants to almost every applicant (except the French Canadian). But the costs of patents were very high; immense tracts of lands were granted to favoured individuals without the condition of actual settlement; and, what was worse, two-sevenths of the surveyed lands were reserved—the one for the Crown, the other for a Protestant Clergy. The settlers on the remaining five-sevenths had to make and keep in repair the necessary roads, not only through their own lands, but even through these reserved Crown and Clergy lots; while many of the original grantees of the Crown were exempted from that duty. Even in the present time the Clergy lots, if not occupied, contribute nothing to the making of the roads and keeping them in repair. That course rendered the settlement of the waste lands of the Crown so expensive and burthensome, that comparatively but few could settle on them. The great mass preferring to settle in the seigniories, where these inconveniences did not exist; the Seigniors,

at least some of them, were encouraged in raising the rate of rents, and in that they were supported by decisions of tribunals. It is useless to speak here of these tribunals. Suffice it to say, that such a conduct on the part of all authorities would naturally create in the mind of the French Canadian population, the impression that they were systematically excluded from access to the waste lands of the Crown. It is to be hoped that these bad times are gone by, never to return again.

8. As many squatters will have to remove, having located themselves on lands already occupied by others, means shall have to be adopted whereby they may be located on surveyed lands in preference to new-comers.

9. The interest of those that have erected mills should not be lost sight of; they being, in fact, the first pioneers of these forests. The sites of their mills should be made over to them at a moderate price, with a sufficient quantity of land around to enable them to carry on their operations with facility, allowing them to purchase land for farming purposes a little further, if the nearest is already occupied in good faith by others.

10. In several places clusters of houses and other buildings have been erected, where villages should be made, without leaving sufficient room for streets, yards, &c. These sites of intended villages or towns should immediately be regularly laid out in building lots of a moderate size, under the orders and superintendence of the Crown Land Department, without any regard to actual buildings; but a sufficient and specified time should be allowed for the owners to remove them on lots to be purchased by them, or otherwise to dispose of them.

11. The Honourable Hudson's Bay Company having established several trading posts on the tract leased to them, a reasonable extent of ground should be attached to these posts, not only for the residence of their agents, but for farming purposes, if they desire it; their right of occupation should be respected as much as possible, and intrusion by other parties prevented.

12. During the progress of my visit, I was repeatedly told of the diminution of the salmon fishery, formerly so abundant in the lower part of the Province, in the Saguenay in particular, and which is fast dwindling into insignificance. I have not the least doubt but that the diminution is owing to the cutting off to that fish of his proper access to the streams running into the Gulf and River St. Lawrence and their tributaries, by the improper construction of mill-dams and other artificial obstructions. Some well-ascertained facts in the natural history of that fish, show that at a certain season he leaves the salt water to ascend the fresh-water streams, and spawn in particular places, where, in due course of time, the eggs are hatched; that when strong enough the young fish goes down to the sea, but that for ever afterwards he will annually return to the place of his birth, if not intercepted in his passage downwards or upwards. It is also well known that salmon will leap a considerable height, if he can take his start from a favourable place,—from an eddy, for instance. If the salmon fishery is to be considered, as it really is, an object of importance to the Province,

would it not be a proper subject of inquiry, to make some researches to ascertain the best mode and manner to construct mill-dams across rivers presently or formerly frequented by that fish, in order to facilitate, and not prevent, as is the case now, his ascent to these streams? The Government has the right, and I consider it one of its paramount duties, to see that only a proper use be made of all rivers and streams, in order to prevent everything which may be prejudicial to public or private rights and interests.

13. I have been credibly informed that the New Brunswick authorities are silently but steadily pursuing an unwarrantable system of encroachments on the territory formerly disputed by the United States, and by them since, in part at least, given up to Great Britain, although the same clearly belongs to Canada. From the information I received, it appears that almost all the families settled along the St. John River, west of the due north line drawn from the source of the St. Croix, and along the Madawaska River, are French Canadians, coming from the parishes below and above Quebec, as far up as Cap Santé and Deschambault—and not Acadians formerly settled in New Brunswick, and collected along these rivers of their own accord. Many French Canadians are also settled since a long time on the south shore of the River St. John, where they expected to be on British territory, and awaiting the moment the protection of the Canadian Government is extended to the opposite shore, to return under its sway. The first above mentioned and those settled below the outlet of the Madawaska are desirous of remaining with Canada, whose laws they understand, and which they have been used to since their childhood. If, on a not very late occasion, they have petitioned to be annexed to New Brunswick, I am warranted in stating that they were led astray by a few individuals influenced by motives of private and personal feelings and interests. Indeed, their own consciousness of their ignorance of the laws of New Brunswick may have induced them to allow their names to be put to a petition whose purport they were not fully aware of, almost none of them being able to read or write.

In order to put an end to these encroachments of the authorities, and intrigues from individuals, in New Brunswick, I would suggest that prompt measures be adopted for the survey and immediate settlement of the lands situated on the Canada side of the River St. Francis, down to its outlet in the St. John; that the same be done along the St. John and western shore of the Madawaska, up to the southern line of the seigniory of that name. As the authorities in New Brunswick, I am informed, are offering free grants and titles to those who have settled there more than ten years ago, and lands at two shillings and sixpence per acre to those that have settled since that time, I would advise that two ranges of lots or concessions should be granted free to the present settlers, and to all new-comers, under the sole condition of actual settlement and residence, and making and keeping in repair all necessary roads, according to the laws of this Province. The Temiscouata Portage Road is opened and travelled down to the St. Francis, along which there is a good winter road, which, by settlers, can soon be

improved and made a good summer communication. Along the St. John the country is settled thickly enough to have tolerably good roads.

The people settled in that part, as well as our lumber merchants, cutting timber under licences from this Government, have been left so long without protection of any kind, that we need not be surprised if our grasping neighbours have availed themselves of our supineness, and argue from our apathy a formal abandonment of our rights to that territory, pleading for themselves actual possession and legislation. Let this Government extend a fostering hand to its subjects in all parts of this Province, in that corner in particular; let Magistrates be appointed there, enjoying the confidence of the people—an active Crown Land Agent reside among them—Circuit and other Courts be established—lands be surveyed and granted on easy terms, and then it will be an easy task to confine New Brunswick within her own limits. But by all means its aggressive conduct in depriving us *de facto* of the navigation of the St. John, by seizing our timber when coming within the limits of her acknowledged jurisdiction, ought to be checked and put a stop to. * * * * *

14. There would be no difficulty in effecting the speedy settlement of that part of the Province, and of the rest of the disputed territory which has remained to Great Britain. The District of Quebec is, comparatively speaking, overburthened with an agricultural population, confined to a narrow strip of land extending between the St. Lawrence and the mountains on both sides of that river. That population is anxiously waiting for the introduction of a system of Land Granting, by which they may be allowed to make use of their scanty means and capital (much reduced of late by a succession of bad harvests) for bettering their condition, by resorting to these waste lands, which, under the present regulations, they are unable to purchase. If any immediate loss was to be incurred in depriving the public revenue of the money to arise from the sale of these lands, it would soon be made up by the increased consumption of dutiable articles. But no loss is to be incurred, as these lands have long remained, and would for a long time to come remain, unsold. Besides, by encouraging settlement by French Canadians along the American Frontiers, it would be erecting the strongest barrier against invasions on the part of the United States.

15. In order to prevent delay and unnecessary expenses, such as have taken place in the survey of the townships in the Saguenay—and as the whole north shore of the St. Lawrence should be divided into townships (or other territorial divisions) as far as the limits of the Province, excepting, of course, a few seigniories now existing,—I would recommend that only the front of such township or territorial division should be measured, and the two side lines run about one mile and a half, more or less, and marked by good stone boundaries, which could easily be found when necessary. In many places along that shore, some settlements are begun. Although but few places are fit for settlement in the front, yet some saw-mills have been built, and are now building, which will induce people to settle; and as these settlements

will extend, the interior will become better known, and some places for settlement and cultivation will be met with. Then, under the authority and instructions from the Land Department, settlers might be allowed to have the lands they might want regularly surveyed. By that means, surveys would be made only when actually wanted, and would not become so obliterated as to require being renovated at a heavy expense.

16. Want of time prevented me from pushing my excursion as far as the District of Gaspé, as I at first intended to do, with the view, among others, first, of ascertaining the best mode of giving effect to a promise which seems to have been made by one of Your Excellency's predecessors, of granting titles to a certain class of settlers therein. As, up to the year 1828, or thereabouts, the waste lands of the Crown were given in free grants to all applicants wishing to settle upon them, I would consider it only equitable that all those who have settled before that time, as well as their descendants, heirs, or assigns, should have titles for the lands then actually occupied, by only paying the cost of patent; therefore means should be adopted to forward that desirable object.

17. To ascertain if a vacant fishing-place could be found for the Indians, near or not very far from the waste lands, where they could be located, and little by little addict themselves to agricultural pursuits and a better state of civilisation. I could not learn that this was the case, and until a better plan can be adopted, I would suggest that they should be put upon the same footing as the Indian tribes of Upper Canada. The lands of these tribes in Lower Canada have been, time after time, taken from them, either by the Government, who had them surveyed, granted, sold, or otherwise disposed of, without any indemnity, or by squatters, although they have often, but in vain, applied for compensation. As these lands have been and are to be disposed of for the advantage of the Province, it seems but just that the Province should, out of the Provincial funds, grant to those who are not provided for, an annuity equal to the average paid to the Upper Canada Indians. Also a whole township should be reserved for each of these tribes, as near as possible from the place of their present abode, where, under certain regulations, they might settle. It appears to me that the only practical mode of bringing them to entire civilisation is by means of their religious instructors; and I see no religious body so able to carry on that philanthropic undertaking than the Jesuits, who had such signal success among the Paraguay Indians. If that view was adopted, I would be prepared to present a scheme to effect it for Your Excellency's consideration. In the mean time, something must be done immediately for the relief of the Micmacs of Restigouche; but as that is a matter more particularly coming under the control of the Crown Land Department, I need not here enlarge upon that topic.

18. I will conclude this rather long report by calling Your Lordship's attention to the great advantages which would result to the public, of an annual visit made by the Members of your Cabinet in different parts of the Province, to make themselves personally ac-

quainted with the actual state of things throughout the country, and with the best means of promoting its welfare. Information acquired in that manner would, in my opinion, be much more complete than what can be obtained from local agents or individuals, whose views may often be of mere sectional nature. The administration would then be better enabled to prepare measures to be submitted to the Legislature.

I have the honour to be, my Lord,

Your Lordship's most devoted and humble servant,

D. B. PAPINEAU, C. C. L.

Montreal, Sept. 27, 1845.

THE EMIGRANT: A TALE OF AUSTRALIA.

BY W. H. LEIGH, ESQ.

AUTHOR OF "RECONNOITRING VOYAGES AND TRAVELS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA, CAPE OF GOOD HOPE, ETC.;"

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(Continued from p. 192.)

The suddenness of this storm was only equalled by its violence. Not a solitary thing in that tempest-beaten bark was at rest. The rolling, the heaving, and the trembling of the vessel's timbers, as she pitched into a hollow sea, or was struck by a gigantic wave, produced a dizziness, a cloud, upon the minds of the passengers below, that though uncertain for a moment as to whether the next wave would not engulf them, yet there was not to be heard a solitary voice giving utterance to grief. The darkness that necessarily reigned below made it impossible for any one, at the risk of their life and limbs, to remain an instant in the main cabin; therefore every one sought shelter for himself, in the best manner he was able, in his own cabin, gazing with bewildered senses upon the carnage reigning around him. On deck the wildness of the scene defies the description of the pen: wave after wave was raising its huge body, chasing, overwhelming its fellow, whilst the fiery sky gleamed upon the whole, tinting all around with a lurid red. The ship, although with scarce a sail upon her masts, flew over the waters, plunging, bounding, roaring along, as a huge monster in the extremity of madness. Four men were lashed to the helm, which had as now no mastery over her turbulent subject. No voice could be heard, from the blasts that bellowed through the overstrained rigging. Each shroud had assumed, from tension, the appearance of a bar of iron; and as the wind rushed upon it, a sound was given forth as from the bass of a trumpet. The thunder joined its awful voice to the terrible din; and the forked lightning flashed upon the dishevelled locks and upturned eyeballs of the seamen, giving them for a moment the ghastly appearance of beings from another world.

The sea had increased every minute, and was at this time making

a clean breach over the ship. One tremendous wave came, leaping and bounding over his fellows, as a giant sent at once to arrest the further career of the all-tottering and uncommandable bark. The Captain's experienced eye saw the huge sea coming fierce and impetuous to the attack: he had scarcely time to pass a rope round his waist and waive his hand to the men at the helm, when the ship was struck. For an instant the wild bark was arrested in her flight. The boiling, the hissing sea was above, below, and around her; she was fairly entombed—all were for an awful space, brief as it was, buried in the ocean's womb. The gallant vessel, however, was stunned—not slain; and again she feebly renewed the unequal fight, and gallantly once more presented her bosom to the enemy.

Soon as the eye was enabled to distinguish the results of that woful sea—whilst yet a perfect river was rushing waist-deep over the deck, they discovered, to their horror, that the long-boat, and all that it contained, was washed away: but, hanging half through one of the lee port-holes, appeared jammed, as it were, the body of some one. The Captain unwound his faithful rope, and staggered to the assistance of the precariously-situated individual. By main force he attempted to extricate the body, which was that of a female firmly wedged between the carriage of a gun and the open port. A sailor in the rigging hastily darted to the rescue, when they succeeded at length in drawing forth a woman whose fingers were spasmodically holding by the hair an infant.

The woman, upon being released from her perilous condition, and seeing who was by her side, faintly uttered, "Captain, I thank God I have saved the child; but the mother is gone!"

The unknown woman and surviving child were hurried at once into the fore-castle, for there was no time to lose, as at this moment, and close to where they stood, the main topmast came down with a tremendous crash, and the heavens appeared, if possible, more dismal and foreboding than ever.

Whilst heaving overboard the remaining guns, and what other encumbrances remained upon the deck, there was heard amid the roar of the storm the sudden booming of a gun! The Captain hastened into the rigging, and there, far—too far for him to make out distinctly what vessel or of what kind she was—but certainly there, with apparently but the stump of a mast standing, lay, rolling and plunging, the huge hulk of some unfortunate vessel, which had evidently exhibited, without the dreadful signal-firing of the gun, that she was in the last stage of distress.

The vessel lay far out to windward, and it was only when lightning lent its fierce glare that the tossing and unguidable hull could be discovered. Minute after minute the distress-gun boomed through the din around, till suddenly it ceased. The Captain strained his eyes to the spot where he last saw the vessel: the lightning blazed fiercely as before, firing up the whole horizon, but no mortal eye ever gazed again upon that unhappy ship—no mortal ear shuddered henceforth at the boom of her signal-gun.

As the Captain descended from the shrouds, a voice close to his ear cagerly inquired, "Is she gone down?"

The Captain turned his eye round to look at the inquirer. It was the same female whom he had rescued from such imminent peril: she was swaddled up in a seaman's dreadnought, and her head was bound round with an old oilskin south-wester.

"Who tied you there?" asked the Captain, seeing that his inquirer was firmly lashed to the windward belaying-pins.

"Is the ship foundered?" again in a tone of intense anxiety demanded the female.

"She most certainly has," answered the Captain. "But who are you, and what is your object in braving this awful hurricane? This is no place for women! your life is in momentary danger. Get you at once into a place of safety; you may meet with an accident that will send you after the vessel you so foolishly inquire about, if you don't take better care of yourself."

"I can afford to lose my life, for I have already this day saved one perhaps of more value than my own. But, at all events, whilst this storm continues I shall keep the deck; and if the vessel makes her last plunge, I at least shall go down with my eyes open. Here it is my determination to remain."

"As you please," said the Captain, hurrying his way aft; "women will have their own way."

CHAPTER XIII.

- "What if thine eye be beautifully bright,
E'en as the eagle's? yet thy rugged back,
And flatten'd head, and legs are dusky black:
Thy mouth---oh! close it, for I dread the sight.
Go' . . . 'Oh, why reproach my lot?'
A voice replied, low murmur'ing from the flood:
'A purpose I may serve, to thee unknown.'"

THE tempest continued its force unabated till toward the close of the second day, when the wind began gradually to die away, and the sea sunk rapidly into a state of repose. Now might be seen emerging one after the other, from the crowded cabins to the deck, the delighted passengers, exulting that the danger was over.

"Well," cried one above the rest, as he poked his red-nightcapped head up the companion,—“Well, thank God for all things! we've had a precious shaking! Talk of tossing a fellow in a blanket—it's nothing to the d—d tossing, tumbling, rolling, bumping, bending, cringing, headaching, shin-skinning, back-steaming, that I've undergone the last sixty hours. Not one morsel of animal food has entered my precious mouth, except a blind and diseased cockroach, that doubtless fell into it in a fit as he was crawling over; not a morsel else—no, not even the crack of a biscuit. You might lie on your bone-shaken back, and bawl out 'Steward! Steward, I say, for the honour of the Virgin, bring' me a bite! for the love you bear St. Peter, bring me just a morsel of biscuit, if it's only the size of a nutmeg, and the very least

drop of rum to saturate the same ;'—no ! not he,—you might implore the infidel by all the names in the calendar, he moved not ; though I'd the melancholy satisfaction to see him in the distance, clearing the dust out of his own pipes with a pleasant touch of solitude I longed to invade. Well, as I used to hear my respected grandmother say, after giving me some rhubarb and senna tea, whilst the nasty yellow mess still hung thick upon my lips—' Now laugh, Toby, and suck your plum ; it's all over.' But stay ! where's the long-boat ? and where's the cook's galley, that should stand here, if memory serves ? Where be the swine, and the sheep, and the oxen ? "

" They are all gone, Mr. Turkey, to Davy's locker ; and thank your lucky stars you ain't gone arter 'em ! I can just tell you as how it war as near as a touchers," said a sailor, in answer to Mr. Turkey ; for we find it was our old lively friend, who was one of the first upon the scene of the conflict.

" And is the cook gone to see old Davy ? " pursued Turkey.

" No," rejoined the seaman, " he ain't exactly gone, sir ; he's a sort of chap as holds on by the skin of his teeth. Cooks at sea are like post-boys ashore ; it's reckoned a sight quite out o' the common order o' things to see a dead un of either on 'em. I've heerd in my time, when I was aboard the 'Thumping Sally,' as we called her—I've heerd a rummish go or two about what you call the cooks—we call 'em the doctors, 'case they docters us inwards, arout which there'd be no employ for the t'other docter, you know, Mr. Turkey, except he wanted just to try his fist in the amabotomy, don't they call it ? But the sea-cook never cocks *his* toe, ony under most exasperated circumstances. The black covey aboard the 'Thumping Sally' made believe, off the coast o' Africa, that he was a dead un ! The docter said as how he was as dead as a marlin-spike. I went to look at him—as in course we all did, reckoning it a sight we didn't see every watch. Well—we *all*, the starboard watch, went to look at him as he lay upon the grating ; and the mate chalks on the slate—' 10 P. M. Died Wappy Dumpo, the Cook ; ' he puts it in large letters—I seed him do it. Well, when we'd all seen him, the boatsun says to mc, says he, ' Bob,' says he, ' this is the thirty-seventh year I've sailed the brine, and I'm blow'd if ever I seen a dead cook afore—I never did, by G—d ! ' said he : ' I've heerd tell on 'em, but never believed it.' Well, he says to the sailmaker, ' Sailmaker,' says he, ' when are you a-going to stitch up poor old Wappy Dumpo ? ' ' I a' got the yarn for that very job,' says he, ' and I'm a-going just at it,' says he. Well, in course we slewed round to lend a hand—it was getting devilish dark, and we wanted him overboard afore the morning, for corpses won't keep long in those 'ere latitudes. Well, sailmaker kneels down, and we just helps Dumpo's carcase comfortably into his hammock. It was a most uncommon short un, that same hammock, and wouldn't kiver his legs ; so as we must in course shot the body, and we allais shots the stern, we sews up the shot under his great ugly hoofs ; what sprawling feet that fellow had, to be sure !) Well then, stitch after stitch went on, till we could see no further : according-ly, I fetches the glim ;—that 'ere being done, and all

ready for launching, the mate comes aft to lend us a hand. We gets the grating fairly o' the leward gun carriage,—then on from there, by might and main, right to the top of the gangway. Well, there he rested as on a balance, like a man as you may a' seen jumping in a sack at a country fair. Dumpo's hammock war sewed tight, under his chin, and his great black curly head (I think I see it now) lolling out of the sack. Up climbs the mate and the sailmaker, just to see him go down,—it's allais a sight as makes impression on me. 'Up with the glim,' says the mate; 'and when I say *Three*, let go. One—two!' I held up the glim at that moment as the mate cries 'Two,' just over the corpse, so as to let the light fall plump on his face. Thinks I, 'I'll take a last look at poor Dumpo.' The mate screamed out, afore I could turn my quid 'He's alive, by G—d!' The carpenter and sailmaker fell one over the t'other on to the deck; and the black going over, seized the lanthorn with his teeth, and arter him it went like a ball of fire hissing into the sea. Arter that I remember no more, till we was all four having some grog on the capstan. 'Did you see *that*, Bill?' says the mate to the sailmaker. 'I did *that*,' says he, shaking his head. 'And so did I!' 'And so did I!' echoed the t'other two. Myself had nearly lost my faculties; I couldn't tell what I had seen, till I felt the grog reviving within me. And then I ups and says, says I, 'And I'm d—d if I didn't see it too: just as I held up the glim,' says I, 'and the mate was singing out, One—two, I'm blessed if the cook didn't *wink* at us; I seen his great white eye, actilly like a cotton ball, just afore he snapped at the glim.' I shall never forget it—he was a murdered man! I often think of that event; it war one of no every-day occurrence; catch me ever lend a hand agaip to swamp a sea-cook—I wouldn't, by G—d, for Greenwich! It's wilful murder—that's what it is."

Mr. Turkey took a most violent pinch of snuff, and "Bob," the relater of the terrible "ewent," slewed his enormous quid from port to starboard; and, as he turned a parting glimpse upon Turkey, and gave the satisfactory hitch to his nether man, he poked his thumb knowingly over his shoulder, and, with an accompanying nod of the head, roared out, "Mr. Turkey wants the cook!"

But that functionary was too busy at that time to lose a moment; and, notwithstanding he heard the summons most audibly, as he should, he contented himself with shouting out,

"And him can say, him cook wery glad o' turkey! him fine ham West-failure to marry him to, ha! ha! Cook wery glad storm ober, but wish him let galley alone; knock him all in lee-scupper, and bust him copper's ribs in like old buckets. It no good to repent—all is gone, and sorree is not for me."

(Cook sings from his broken galley.)

"I knew by de moke, dat so gracefully culi'd,
 Abohe de geen ems, dat a cottage was nee,
 And I say, if dere's peace to be foun in dis wold,
 A hat dat is umle mit ope for it hee.
 Ebry leap was at est, and I ha'd not a soun,
 But him woodpecka tappin de ollow bect tee.
 Ebry leap," &c.

"Well," soliloquised Turkey, "to think of that melancholy-looking, doubly-dyed piece of ebony chaunting a love ditty! It's a beautiful world!"

At this juncture, a voice of complaint was heard, loud and deep. The bewailer was vainly endeavouring to achieve some object apparently very difficult to effect. What it was, the following may serve to show:—

"If I'd a' bin only to a' know'd what sort of a woyage was a-going to fall to my lot, I'd a' set up a razor-grinding—(click, click)—machine. I am not one of those sort of beings as likes this infernal sort of a—(click, click). Well, now, hang me stiff *if* I can—(click). Everything in this world seems to go wrong. Not one bit of bakker have I had in my pipe this three days; and now—(click, click)—I'm spifficated *if I can* get a light. Ah, ah! what, my old friend, Ochus Moss! Is that you? All alive—alive oh! Good! Let's bakker, Moss."

"Yes, Turkey, my friend, it's myself—or a precious good imitation."

"And here you see me, in the most horrid trim I ever was in my whole course. This shaking us all up together, like pills in a box, don't suit my notion of quiet. And, what's the worst on it, for the soul on me can I get a light! Been pelting and digging into this old steel till I am ready to break out in a flare myself, and all to no purpose. *Fire ain't in it!*"

"Here, friend Moss—here's a lucifer."

"The devil there is!" ejaculated Moss, seizing the proffered box of Turkey. "Now, I say, *this is* as it ought to be. Here, Turkey, here's my bakky; let's blow a cloud. Where did you stow yourself during the 'three glorious days,' as the *parley-voos* have it?" inquired Mr. Moss of his fellow-smoker, as the two worthies scated themselves upon a cask.

"Why, Moss, that's a question I can hardly tell. I was stowed away in a horrid predicament."

"Ah, ah! that's good. So was I. And the worst of it was—this—the worst of it was—(puff, puff)—Well, now, I'm—(puff)—I'm d——"

"Hush, Moss!" cried Turkey, holding his hand open toward the irritated smoker. "Don't anathemise!"

"Don't anatomise! do you say? Is't not enough to make a parson anatomise, when his pipe's flue 's bunged up, and, for the vig on him, he can't get no vent? I thought of having just a quiet whiff, and here am I, flint *and* steel, tooth *and* nail, at it for half an hour, till I steam like a cowcumber bed; and when I do get a spark on the top of my weed, here I am again, blowing and flapping my cheeks together like an old pair o' bellows: sometimes my pipe draws like a pump-sucker; then, again, it takes a fit, and is as tight-plugged as a man's nose when he's a-got the snuffles. Blow the pipe! if it ain't enough to exasperate a bishop!"

"Patience, friend Ockus!" quietly said Mr. Turkey. "Don't *put*

your pipe out! Here, take this blade of bamboo, and give it a radical reform; that's all the pipe wants—a thorough turn out, and a search into all its secret crannies. You have not paid that attention to it which was necessary; and if you have not a keen eye upon all things, and give them a regular scouring out now and again, abuses will creep in, in spite of all your confidence."

"Good, my learned Turkey!" said Moss, as he complacently blew forth a cloud that enveloped himself and friend,—“Good! I say; what a thing it is to be blessed with that 'ere ready kind of comfortable doctrine! I've *poked out* the rubbish that was, day after day, accumulated, and *now* there's nothing the matter wi' the pipe; it only wanted a stir up with a proper sort of poker,—not too stiff an' headstrong, for that would a' broke afore it entered; not too soft and bendable, for that wouldn't a' searched out the proper depth; but a middle sort of thing, just like that bit o' bamboo—strong, yet the first to bend at the proper time; stiff, and poking just where it war wanted. Come, that's a good idear. Have you, Mister T., heerd anything particlar awful durin the storm?" inquired Mr. Moss.

"Not *very* particular yet," replied Turkey; "but we lost a woman when the long-boat was washed away—the cattle, you know, &c. &c. However, as the poor wretch of a woman was in the last stage of typhus fever, I look upon it rather as a blessing than otherwise. But the most curious part of that affair is, some cock-and-bull story the steward has got by the tail, about the child of the woman going after her into the sea, when a mermaid instantly snatched the child up, and, as the ship lurched, placed it safely aboard again, not a bit the worse! The steward says, the carpenter and Bill Bobstay actually had a yarn with the mermaid, when she inquired what latitude she was in, bid them good voyage, and, after flourishing her looking-glass at them, dived after the woman! Steward says it's a positive fact."

"God bless us and save us!" cried Moss, taking his pipe from his mouth and staring wildly at Turkey. "A mermaid, ay? Now we'll soon prove wether that's a lie or no, for I'll just go and ax to see the young un, cos I knows that war in the boat."

So saying, Moss jerked himself off the pork-cask, and, with a determined air, strode off to properly "investigate" the matter. He had not been long absent, when he came hurrying along the deck, his eyes fixed full on Turkey, and his pipe flourishing in his left hand, whilst he stretched forth the clenched fist of his right. And no sooner was he within the hearing of Turkey, than he thundered out—

"Consternation bully me, if it ain't a fact! I've actually seen the balchin!"

"Seen the what, Moss?"

"Why, the little balch young un. By my old boots!" continued Moss, vehemently striking his thigh, "by my old boots! if this don't cap Dolly! Well, come, I have heerd strange things in my time! Poor Abraham Barlow, of the 'Three Balls,' used to say strange things: how he once seen a woman dressed as a widow, and three orphans, come straight into his shop one night as he sat balancing his

books ; and how the widow's cheeks looked like withered parchment, and her eyes sunk deep into the sockets, twinkling fiery upon her bony young uns. She makes straight up to a shelf, without taking the least notice of Barlow ; takes down off it, without any ceremony, a wariety of articles : there was a box o' dice, a parl necklace, and some rings, all of which, one arter the t'other, she swallowed, till it come to the three dice, one of which she giv to each of her bantlings, which they, arter the fashion of the old un, directly bolted. Barlow saw'd it all, clear as possible eyes could see ; but he couldn't utter a word. He looked firm at 'em, too. The door didn't seem to open for 'em to go out, but they, he says, deliberately walked *through* it. He heerd a faint rustling, like silk, as they cut off ; but he couldn't get his jaw to wag, else he says he wanted to hoot arter 'em. What's the strangest part on it all is, the next morning arter he told me on it, we both went to look at the shelf, and, bottle me off if there warn't all the dollop, dice and all, as comfortable as ever ! We couldn't make nothing on it ; but it wery much bothered poor Barlow. He allais talks on the widow when he gets rather smoky. But this mermaid consarn quite bemistificates me—I carn't get over this !”

“ Well, Moss,” interrupted Turkey, “ you see, however, that it's a positive fact ; and there's the evidence of the child's being alive to prove it. The mermaid gave it the captain through the porthole.”

“ Well—I wonder if the child had a caul or not, what's often sold in the *Times* paper ; if not, I never heerd tell o' such a miraculous thing afore,” said Moss,—“ never in all my born days. It's the rummest go I ever did hear tell on. Bottle me off, if it ain't ! I'm rigler corked !”

CHAPTER XIV.

“ Yes---from the sepulchre we'll gather flowers,
Then feast like spirits in their promised bowers.”---THE ISLAND.

“ SUSAN, child, bring me my writing-desk. Thank you. Did you ever hear the last letter I received from my unfortunate Charles, Susan ?”

“ Never, marm,—but I will be obliged to yer, if so be, marm, you would read me a bit of it ; for this terrible shipwreck as we are all undergoing takes away my complete senses—except those as wants to be comforted.”

“ Sit, child, upon that sofa—or lie upon it, Susan ; never mind me—you will be more comfortable reclining. You know the dreadful charge laid to him Susan, and the horrid verdict given against him ?”

“ Ay, faith do I, marm,” sighed Susan. “ Do I ? Yes, too well—he's anone guilty, no more than I am—not he, it ain't in his noble nature. Oh Lord !—it's dreadful to think on.”

“ Susan,” interrupted the lady, who was half leaning, half sitting upon a settee, holding the letter in her hand, “ he is as innocent of that dreadful crime as an angel sitting by the throne of the Almighty. However, time will do him justice—hear the letter :—

"MY DEAREST, MY UNHAPPY PAULINE,—

"You have heard ere this the fatal termination of my trial. I am condemned to exile;—yes, the jury of my fellow-countrymen, upon the evidence adduced (all, as you are aware, circumstantial), have pronounced me guilty. I am as innocent of that foul and savage crime as thou art. You will have read in the public prints parts of my defence—and so certain was I of immediate release, that I had employed no counsel, and prepared no speech; I trusted alone to my heart to hurl the foul stigma from my bosom. You will perceive that I have failed—only for a time. Well it is for me that my parents exist not, to mourn over the misfortunes of their child; the world holds but one—my adorable Pauline, that is interested in the fate of the oppressed, the above all others unhappy, Charles. I have already suffered two months' incarceration, the expiration of which, I bitterly remember, was to have been to me *the day* when I entered terrestrial happiness. You will call to mind—it was fixed upon as——O heavens! what a change! Where art thou now, O my beloved Pauline? Think upon the guiltless, the anguished, outraged bosom of thy poor Charles, and he who was to have been thy happy husband is branded with the accursed stain of ——"

"Susan, Susan, Su——"

"Oh, my poor afflicted missus, don't you read any more. Ah! she's gone—fainted as dead as a stone. Poor unhappy thing! what am I to do? I daren't call any one into this 'ere state-room. Ah! she gives a spasm sigh! Come, now, dear lady, smell this bottle.—Thank God, you are—yes, you are better now!"

"Where am I?"—

"You are in your cabin, my dear. Yes, here you are: I am Susan—your poor friend Susan—don't you know me? Lean your dear head against my bussum. There.—God bless me! how scalding hot her tears be!"

"There—thank you, Susan, I am better, much better, now." (She heaved a deep sigh.) "I have been thinking of that ——"

"Never mind, dearest missus—we shall hear of its all being right the very first letter—you shall live to hear it all found out. I myself will finely kick up my heels afore long—I mean to have a roaring gallop some of these days, and it won't be long first. Comfort, dear lady—comfort! our eyes are not made for tears, but for smiling. We are pretty near the land, they do say; and I know there's no cause for miserable unhappiness many weeks longer. Bitter partings makes the sweetest meetings—exactly as the sourest, worst apples makes the sweetest, bestest cider. I'll encourage none on't! There the teardrops stand now on your eyelashes like the dew on the hedge of a hautum morning. Shake 'em off, and let's hear no more letter-reading: you know, dear marm, better than I do, it's all fiddle-sticks!"

"Susan! my tried, my good and valued friend, thy kind heart would fain console all the woes that beset me, and lighten the care that presses heavy on my heart;—Susan, come hither—didst thou ever feel love?"

"Why, really, marm, that's a—that's a—ahem!—that's a ——"

"I do not ask you as your confessor—no!, my curiosity is not that of impertinence, neither am I anxious to possess the secrets of your

bosom. If, Susan, you have ever felt joy in the presence of one being, that became sorrow when that being departed; if you have listened to one peculiar voice above the crowd that surrounded you; if you have dwelt upon words that have been uttered by one mouth in preference to that crowd, and found in them a sweetness that no other lips could utter; and if your heart bounds, when certain eyes seem to meet your own, with a thrill that awakens but to those eyes alone;—and, furthermore, if when you found that the cruel tongue of slander had selected that certain one as a victim, your heart swelled too big for your bosom as each malignant lie drove like a red-hot dart into your inmost heart, and your very brain throbbed as it would split its tenement;—*then*, Susan, I say you have *loved*—you have felt the pangs of love! and as the battle thickens, that would oppose a host, to the heart that is attracted by a consciousness it has met its fellow, and worthy of its warmth, so rises the soul of woman to enter willingly the conflict, and towers like a mighty conqueror, at length, when the weak and defeated body is unable to pursue any longer the unequal fight. Susan, men know not the depth of woman's love: alas! it is too often the phoenix that arises from a heart already laid in ashes.

"I have lately gazed upon the boiling passion of the sea—I have seen its rage sweep furiously upon the helplessness of man, and I thought, How like is this to what daily in our petty round of life we are doomed to behold! I compared our lone and tempest-beaten bark to a solitary being upon the waste of life. I saw the helpless vessel, scarcely sufficient in strength to contend with one rude wave, when another, as if determined upon her destruction, rolled fiercer than ever to arrest her—to swallow her to oblivion—to dance over her tomb, and bound rejoicing along for another victim!—Friendship, Susan, too often is the gilded wave, that rises higher to the noonday sun, and appears to wear to the casual observer a crown of gold. We fancy we could lay our hand upon his burnished brow—we sail in a sea of gladness! 'Tis Eve! and the sun has sunk from his career in the high heavens, and things begin to wear the hue of night. *Then* may we strain our eyes in vain for the mid-day crest of gold that glided beside us—all around us is enshrouded in darkness, and 'tis in the distance we then discern the brightness that, like an *ignis fatuus*, is but shining to delude its other confiding victims."

"Dear lady, do not sigh. Why should you wring your hands and sigh?"

"Did I then sigh? Ah no, 'twas not a sigh—
It was the wreck'd heart's hard convulsive agony
That cheated respiration's proper play.
Sad heart! but little joy e'er shared with thee;
And that where most thou build'st in summer day
Lies prostrate now—~~is~~ barren, desolate!
Beat on—beat on; I know not when thou 'lt cease:
To me the import's little—all is gone!
I scatter *ashes* where my flowers have been,
And bow my throbbing temples to the dust.

What sound of revelry is that I hear? Susan, open my cabin door—

I am in need of a little mirth.—Hark! it is seamen singing in chorus.
List—how joyful it sounds! List!”

(Sailors singing on deck.)

“The storm is o’er, and soon the shore
So welcome we shall see:
Our hearts are light, our ship is tight,
And flies like an eagle free—

(Chorus.) And flies like an eagle free!” &c. &c.

“A sailor’s life is calm and strife—
Pass the can when the storm is o’er.
Here’s absent friends!—my love! my wife!
And three cheers for Old Albion’s shore—

(Chorus.) And three cheers for Old Albion’s shore—
Three cheers for Old Albion’s shore!”

“Susan, that has done me more good (making no discomplement to your abilities) than any sermon you could preach me. Good night—I need you no longer; that one song has entirely recovered me.”

As soon as Susan found herself alone in her cabin, she gave way to the following soliloquy:—

“It’s a certain thing that my poor dear missus is all but gone at times. Only think of her striking out into such phantasmagories about them sailors singin! And then, again, her coming out and bringin me by main force from that comfortable fireside at home, to meet with disaster and shipwreck as we a’ done—and all to find out that poor lad! They’ve a-shaved his head long afore this; and if so be as we should find him in any o’ these outlandish countries, we shouldn’t know him. And a thousand to half-a-dozen if ever we get on to any land at all agin! We been pretty nigh two months now knocking about these wild seas, and I see nothing o’ the shape o’ land—not I. I am a no opinion about that man turning round that wheel thingum-bob, as he calls it, and pretending to take us hundreds upon hundreds of miles by a little bit of printed paper as he’s got in that little box afore him, about as big as the crown of his hat. I don’t at all like the arspect of things, though I don’t like to frighten the poor thing quite out of her senses—and I believe they are nearly upon the start, else what could make her steal out o’ bed and force her way on deck, and actilly stop there durin all that awful tempest, when I lay afrit to a cold sweat in my bed, expectin every moment was our last? There *she* was, all that outrageous shipwrack! and the very next time I clapped my eyes upon her, if she wasn’t disguised in somebody’s old leather-skin dustman’s hat, and a old jacket on her as I wouldn’t a’ picked up with a pair a tongs! And what was all that agin about the child?—she told me, when I was taking off those horrid clothes, she’d saved a child from almost instant death! It’s all past my comprehension, and I am more afeard than ever that she is gone entirely wrong, and isn’t *compost mentust*. But be that as it may, she doesn’t seem at all to care about our havin been shipwracked, but told me it was a sight which she wanted to gaze on for ever, and said as how she wanted to be a sea-

gull! I can see, after all, that I'm the fool most to blame, to follow a poor deluded young girl, when perhaps a loonatic assylus would have done us both good for a time. Howsomever, now I *am* here, and have took upon myself this uncommon queer place, I'll follow her wherever she's a mind to go, so long as she is rationable, and see how it turns out arter all. But I expect, if we escape another shipwrack, we shall be all parched up on the desert of Arabe among the savage Philistines, or some of those Pharisees; and they do tell me they live entirely on the flesh of dragons, and white folks, as they catch in traps. I don't at all like this sort of prospect. Oh! if my poor dear mother, and dear old Mary Webb down in the village, could only but know how I'm a-travelling these forrin countries, and how we've been cast away, they'd a never believe it wor possible.

"For my part, I can't make it out at all, how people ever can come out again on this great heaving sca when once they a' been ashore. I should think if once Miss Pauline, poor dear, finds out her young gentleman, they'll never venture over the sea again. But really, among folks o' their standing, there's a no knowing what they won't be at; they never seem at all quiet, unless they be a-flying about some forrin country. I know Mr. Charles, although he's a-got, or *had*, a great estate that his uncle left him, he couldn't stay at it—not he. There war that great fine house, and greenhousen, and lawns, and woods, and fish-ponds; but all wouldn't do, he must start off into some forrin parts. They do say as how he went to those parts where they grow bakker and snuff; but home he comes agin, arter the lapse of two or three years, as brown as my father, wot worked in the fields. Now, afore he went, I thought him a very fine, handsome fellor, as any you may see in a day's march. His hair was just the sort of colour for me, a darkish brown, and it had a-used to be brushed out in a kind of curl over his ears. I remember as Sally Webb had a-used to say, she wished she had a lock on it. Then his great dark eyes used to look at you as mild and as pensive as a young maid's. When he met us, he always had a smile upon his count'nance, and a nod for us, accompanied with, 'Have you seen Mrs. Beer, the housekeeper, to-day?' But when he comes from his forrin snuff countries, I didn't know him, he had so altered. His hair was hanging flopping about his shoulders, and he had a great blue shawl round his neck, that seemed to swallow half his head. And then his uncommon queer coats, and his hat, all together, with his brown sunburnt face, nobody didn't know him till he spoke to 'em; and then they could hardly believe as it wor him. They said it was the forrin way o' dressing; and all people as had seen the battle of Waterloo common, wor obleeged to have their hair in long streams about 'em for a long time arter, as a pennance for their curiosity! Well, I'll just compose myself to a nap; though 'tis extraordinary how one can, considering what a little plank keeps that outrageous bellerin sea from besmotherin me in my sleep. Raily, people, afore they start on forrin travel, haven't the least idear what wonderful stuff they're made on!"

CHAPTER XV.

"How calm, how beautiful comes on
The stilly hour, when storms are gone;
When warring winds have died away,
And clouds, beneath the glancing ray,
Melt off, and leave the land and sea
Sleeping in bright tranquillity!

* * * * *

And ev'n that swell the tempest leaves,
Is like the full and silent heavens
Of lovers' hearts, when newly blest---
Too newly to be quite at rest!"---LALLA ROOKH.

"Who could believe that this sleepy, gently-undulating field of oily-looking sea could rouse itself up, and drive this huge and lazy bark, like a cork, upon its crest?—Captain, do you think the calm will last?"

"I think it will, Mr. Blair. At any rate, it will allow us rather more time than necessary to repair our damage. The bill of mortality among the live stock is rather serious, sir. I don't imagine we can muster above three pigs and half-a-dozen fowls; so we shall not be entertained with much variety on the cuddy-table till we *do* make land. How far do you reckon, sir," continued the Captain to Mr. Blair—"how far from the land do you imagine we are? Come, now, let's hear thee guess."

"Why, after the terrible battering of that storm (certainly a period in my life I shall ever remember), and going at the rate we sometimes did, then deducting the lying-to and so forth—perhaps, considering all things, in a rough, landsman's guess, say five hundred miles."

"I am happy to inform you," said the Captain, "you are two hundred over the mark. Two days' fair wind, and I will land you on the jetty at Cape Town."

"You will! Then, for once in my life, I'll exhibit signs of superstition, and whistle for wind!" said Mr. Blair, laughing, as the Captain forthwith commenced *his* shrill, plaintive chirrup, so peculiar to seamen when they are offering at the shrine to propitiate the fickle Boreas. At this moment the Doctor appearing amidst them, joined in the laugh with Mr. Blair at the expense of the Captain's credulity, who nevertheless persevered in his whistling for wind with the utmost gravity.

"I wanted to see you, Doctor," said Mr. Blair, "and to ask you a question, if you will be so kind as to answer it. Here it is. What *is* the matter with the youth whom we all call the melancholy gentleman? We have not seen him these three weeks, and we know you are daily in attendance upon him. May I learn the solution of the mystery?"

"I'll tell you, sir, the secret, for it is of no moment to inform you upon that point," answered the Doctor. "The poor young man, as he told us all, by accident poisoned a pauper. He fled to his relatives, from excitement had the brain-fever, got better, and, I suspect, fell in love with his cousin. Uncle ordered him off. He went away in the dead of the night, and retreated into Wales, where he appears to have lingered out a most miserable period; first, tormented by a knowledge

of his crime ; secondly, the fear of retributive justice overtaking him ; thirdly, the affair of the heart with his cousin, who, it appears, from what he tells me, loves him tenderly ; and, lastly, some letter he received—from what I can make out, a former love—recommending him to fly the country.. All this weighs upon a very sensitive mind, and has produced such a dejection of spirits as to throw him into a completely desponding state ; so much so, that I scarcely think, unless some great change takes place, his life will be of very great continuance."

"Poor young fellow!" said Mr. Blair ; "I'm extremely sorry for him."

"So am I," cried the Doctor. "But medicine is of little use 'to a mind diseased;' and, travel where we will, we cannot fly from conscience, nor the reproaches of our heart. If he were to be hung for giving his patient too much physic, and *if all doctors* who commit that error in judgment were to suffer likewise, I fear that there would be more executions than in the days of the famous Jeffries himself."

Blair joined in the laugh with the Doctor, and both agreed that the melancholy case of the melancholy youth was a very *melancholy* case indeed.

"Well, Misses Blair," said the Doctor, turning round to those ladies as they appeared with their embroidery on deck, "how did you like the cradling we got the other night? Did you not call to mind the song of Mr. Tagg in the play, where he sings—

"Peaceful slumbering on the ocean,
Seamen fear no danger nigh;
The winds and waves, in troubled motion,
Soothe them with a lullaby?"

"No, indeed, Doctor. I, for one, was in no humour either for repeating plays, or venturing one thought upon Mr. Tagg. I had the greatest difficulty to prevent myself rolling out on to the floor, and I believe that Emily ———"

"Fie, sister! I know what you were about to say. Doctor, don't pay any attention to Emily's jokes about me. I assure you, we were all in a pitiable condition, and scarcely knew whether we should not very suddenly find ourselves on the way to the bottom."

Thus spoke the younger Miss Blair, and at once betrayed, by her manner of alluding to the subject, that the horrors of that night were still vividly before her.

"Well—but—" observed the Doctor, "have you not heard of the heroine of the after-starboard cabin?"

"No!" exclaimed the two ladies in a breath ; "what of her?"

"Why," continued the Doctor, "the whole of that terrible night, and the major part of the following day, she was lashed in the windward rigging!—she was there at the moment, most critical to us all, when that awful sea struck us, and which carried away the long-boat and all that was in it!"

"Surely, Doctor, you are not in earnest!"

"Indeed, ladies, but I am. She saw all that terrific scene; and it

appears that the infant which my poor fever patient insisted upon nursing, was swept, by the force of that same wave which hurried its mother to eternity, to the lee porthole, where for a moment, during the lurch of the ship and back draught of water, it lay half out and half aboard. That moment, in spite of the torrent still surging on deck, the heroine seized—cast loose her bonds, and was by the returning wave enabled to grasp the child by its hair as it disappeared through the porthole. Here is the Captain, who, with the greatest difficulty, saved the brave young lady from falling a victim to her noble cause."

"Doctor," cried the ladies in a breath, "you overwhelm us with astonishment!"

Here the Captain assured them that the Doctor had detailed the whole of the facts; which the Captain further illustrated by describing the manner of the rescue, and his ignorance at the time, and even till very recently, who the female could be that was thus braving the fierceness of the tempest.

"And is the child still living?" inquired Mr. Blair.

"It is; and the distracted father is waiting the first opportunity to offer up his blessing to the preserver of, now, his only hope."

"Was she a young person that had the misfortune to be washed away?" asked Miss Blair.

"She was," answered the Captain, "but nineteen; and this infant that had so narrow an escape, was her first and her last. The unfortunate husband has been almost frantic since his bereavement; but I have assured him that everything shall be done that lies in my power to, at least, mitigate his distress. The whole of the passengers in the steerage have entered deeply into his sorrow, and I am glad to find by the Doctor's account, he is gradually composing himself to bear the cruel bereavement he has sustained."

"If, Captain," interrupted Mr. Blair, "you were of opinion that a small pecuniary offer might in any way be acceptable to him, I will, in the event of our wishes meeting the poor fellow's approval, put my name down for two guineas, and my wife and girls will subscribe a similar sum."

"In that case, Mr. Blair," said the Captain, "I will undertake to say at once, that such a proceeding on the part of the passengers would, at least, show that there was a sympathy reigning in the bosoms of all for the grievous affliction that has so suddenly blasted his hopes. I will join the list with two guineas also, and the subscription list shall be left upon the cabin-table for further signatures. I shall be too happy to communicate ought to the poor man capable of alleviating his grief. I have every reason to believe that he is a very worthy person."

"Do you hear some one singing a ridiculous song, Miss Blair?" inquired the Doctor.

"Yes. I heard the same voice singing in the very midst of the tempest, and notwithstanding the terror that naturally seized us, I and Emily laughed most heartily: it's the same voice—I know it well—I often hear it—I believe the gentleman with the very low-crowned hat is the party. Is it true?"

"Yes, it is, Miss Blair. His name is Turkey—he is a most extraordinary being. I cannot make anything out of his history. He is a person possessing a liberal, if not a classical education, and, what Shakspeare says of Yorick—'he is a fellow of infinite jest, and wont to set the table in a roar.' Pray what was the song you heard him singing during the storm?"

"I heard him sing several," answered Miss Blair. "One, I recollect, made me convulsed with laughter. The first verse that he sung, evidently as he lay in his berth to himself, began—

"There was a little woman, as I've heard tell—
Fal lal, tal lal, lal lal le—
And she went to market—"

and so forth; but the ridiculous manner in which he sang it, and the idea that he alone should have such absurd thoughts crowding his brain when all around was no doubt wretched in the extreme—he must indeed be an original!"

"He is, Miss Blair," said the Doctor, "a perfect original! But there—there he comes upon deck—that's the man, with the low-crowned hat over that bushy occiput of his. Just hark! he has no sooner knocked that little-crowned thing tighter upon his head than he thrusts his hands into his pockets, and begins to banter the poor butcher."

"Well, Mr. Butcher, so you're alive after the blow, are you? You look as blooming as ever. When shall you cut the throats of the two pigs as died of fright?—you know."

"Oh, Mr. Turkey! Them pigs is overboard long ago."

"No such thing; you're going to send them up for our dinner to-day, the cook says, and that's the way you always manage. Do you expect to go to heaven? I believe that storm was all through having *you* aboard. Did you ever read about the whale swallowing Jonas?"

"No, sir; was he a butcher?"

"Yes, indeed was he, and was throw'd overboard for serving the passengers of an emigrant ship with pigs as died in a south-wester."

"Bless my life! there ought to be a hact a Parliament against such doings. When a pig looks rather fusty, I sticks him, just to save his life, but never has nothing to do wi' 'im arter death."

"Sinner, was that last pig alive when you cut his throat?" roared Mr. Turkey to the astonished butcher.

"Why, he, sir, (scratching his head)—he, sir, *was* pretty nearly gone; but you know, sir, we mustn't be very particular, as times is," stammered forth that surprised functionary.

"Well, I can just tell you this, master butcher, that I am a man that consults and understands the stars, and they have told me, it was not the pork being hung up *in the moonshine*, as you made 'em believe, but you, you unpunished swine mutilator and emigrant poisoner—you that stuck it, and cut it up, four hours after it had died of the unwholesome pig disease—the allbristle alboneus. You'll have to answer for it before you die!—mark my words, you ragged-capped old

sinner! you can't cheat us without selling your horrid black soul to the *old un*!—mark those words!"

Here the lecture was interrupted by the appearance of Mr. Moss, who, with Mr. Turkey, walked forward to the fore-castle to indulge, as the latter said, in the philosophy of the pipe.

"Never did I," said Miss Blair, "hear that person's match; he does not appear ever at a loss."

"No, indeed," said the captain; "he is the life and soul of the intermediates, and is, by universal consent, the chairman of the party. I believe verily they could not exist without him, and he is universally esteemed for his kind manners, and he is always in a good humour—a great recommendation at sea, as well as on shore. I certainly should like to be acquainted with his history."

"And I believe," said Mr. Blair to the ladies, "that so should we all."

"What kind of a place," inquired Mr. Blair of the Captain, "is the Cape for living?"

"It's very cheap, sir—very cheap indeed; you can live for a sum there that would put a man, if he were obliged to subsist upon it in England, very much to his straits: in fact, I do not think he could manage it at all—he would be famished."

"Talking of cheap living, here comes Rennie; he lived some time in the Channel Islands—let's hear what he says of those parts. Rennie, my boy, we were just discussing the merits of various places of resort for cheap living. The Captain tells us the Cape is very reasonable, and I happening to recollect that you lived some time in Jersey, would you have the goodness just to give us a chapter of your experience in those matters?"

"With great pleasure, gentlemen," said Mr. Rennie, "I shall do so; I will give you the entire history of the time I spent in the Channel Islands, as really very few persons seem at all acquainted with them; and those few who believe they are so, are very frequently in the dark upon points that most immediately concern them, and what in a superficial view of the thing may entirely be overlooked."

ON THE GROWTH AND PRODUCTION OF INDIAN CORN OR MAIZE, AND THE MANUFACTURE OF SUGAR FROM THE STALK.

BY THE EDITOR.

THE recent new fiscal regulations promulgated regarding the introduction of foreign grain, and the large supply of Indian corn or maize ordered by our Government from the United States, for the consumption of Ireland, have led us to throw together some information on the growth and culture of this article of food.

Indian corn was found among the natives of North America on the first discovery of the country, and from them received its name. It was cultivated for food by the Indians both in North and South America. It formed a very valuable addition to the vegetable productions of the new inhabitants of the country. It is now grown extensively in the United States, in the British American Provinces, in most of the Republics of South America, throughout the West Indies, at the Cape of Good Hope, and in Australia. Indian corn and meal generally find a market in the West Indies, Newfoundland, Spain, and Portugal. It commands a good price, and finds a ready market in the ports which are open to its reception.

Deducting one-sixteenth for the amount exported and one-tenth for seed, the quantity of maize annually consumed for food in the United States by a family of five persons is 85 bushels.

Maize may be considered as the great staple of the agricultural products of the States. It is exported in large quantities, in a raw state, or when manufactured into meal. Before it is manufactured into meal, it is dried by a fire, in a kiln prepared for that purpose. By this process, the meal is much less liable to become sour on the voyage, and can be preserved much longer in a warm climate. No inconsiderable quantities have likewise been consumed in distillation; and the article of kiln-dried meal for exportation, is destined to be of no small account to the corn-growing sections of that country.

Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, and Indiana, are, in their order, the greatest producers of this kind of crop. In Illinois, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Missouri, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, New York, Maryland, Arkansas, and the New England States, it appears to be a very favourite crop. In New England especially, the aggregate is greater than in any of the grains, except oats. The improvement continually making in the quality of the seed augurs well for the productiveness of this indigenous crop, as it has been found that new varieties are susceptible of being used to great advantage.

In 1840 the production of the States was 377,531,878 bushels.

The following was the produce of the different States in the three years named, as given in the Official Census Returns:—

	1840.	1841.	1843.
	BUSHEL.	BUSHEL.	BUSHEL.
Maine	950,528	988,549	1,390,799
New Hampshire ..	1,162,572	191,275	330,925
Massachusetts ..	1,809,192	1,905,273	2,347,451
Rhode Island ..	450,498	471,022	578,720
Connecticut ..	1,500,441	1,521,191	1,926,458
Vermont	1,119,678	1,167,219	1,252,853
New York	10,972,286	11,441,256	15,574,590
New Jersey	4,361,975	5,131,366	5,805,121
Pennsylvania ..	14,240,022	14,969,472	15,857,431
Delaware	2,099,359	2,161,507	2,739,982
Maryland	8,233,086	6,998,124	6,205,282
Virginia	34,577,591	33,987,255	45,836,788
N. Carolina ..	23,893,763	24,116,253	27,916,077
S. Carolina ..	14,722,805	14,987,474	18,190,913
Georgia	20,905,122	21,749,227	26,960,687
Alabama	20,947,004	21,594,354	24,817,089
Mississippi	13,161,237	5,985,724	9,386,399
Louisiana	5,952,912	6,224,147	8,957,392
Tennessee	44,986,188	46,285,359	67,838,477
Kentucky	39,847,120	40,787,120	59,355,156
Ohio	33,668,144	35,552,161	38,651,128
Indiana	28,155,887	33,195,108	36,677,171
Illinois	22,634,211	23,424,474	32,760,434
Missouri	17,332,524	19,725,146	27,148,608
Arkansas	4,846,632	6,039,450	8,754,204
Michigan	2,277,039	3,058,290	3,592,482
Florida Territory ..	898,974	694,205	838,667
Wisconsin	379,359	521,244	750,775
Iowa T.	1,406,241	1,547,215	2,128,416
D. of Columbia ..	39,485	43,725	47,837
	377,531,875	387,380,185	494,618,306

We give below the quantities of Indian corn and meal which were exported from the United States in the following years:—

	CORN, BUSHEL.	MEAL, BUSHEL.	VALUE.
			DOLLS.
1790 ..	1,713,241		
1794 ..	1,505,977	211,570	
1798 ..	1,218,231	211,694	
1802 ..	1,633,283	266,816	
1806 ..	1,064,263	108,342	1,286,000
1810 ..	1,054,252	86,744	1,138,000
1814 ..	61,284	26,438	170,000
1818 ..	1,075,190	120,029	2,335,405
1822 ..	509,098	148,288	900,656
1826 ..	505,381	158,652	1,007,321
1829 ..	897,656	173,775	974,535
1833 ..	437,174	146,678	871,814

—Pitkin's Statistics of the U. S., and Seybert's Statistical Annals.

The Exports were, in the year ending

30th September, 1842	600,308	209,199	962,967
Nine Months ending June 30, 1843	672,608	174,354	735,915
	—U. S. Treasury Reports.		

Considered as an article of food for man, and also for the domesticated animals, maize takes a high rank. But the importance of this crop will, doubtless, soon be felt in the new application of it to the manufacture of sugar from the stalk, and oil from the meal.*

As a proof of the magnificent crops yielded by this grain, we extract the following statement from the Report of the Washington County (New York) Agricultural Society:—†

"Mr. Henry R. M'Lean, of Jackson, was awarded a premium of 6 dollars for the best acre of Indian corn, which yielded $115\frac{1}{2}$ bushels eight-rowed yellow corn. The mode of culture may be instructive. It was grown on a dry loam and gravelly soil, with a barn and shed on its south-east side; ten years in meadow; broken up 5 inches deep the last of April: half the acre dressed with farm-yard and hog manure, and well harrowed, May 10; planted with $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels dry plaster (gypsum) May 15; rows 3 feet by $1\frac{1}{2}$; 3 stalks in each hill; weeded once and hoed once, and the surface only loosened each time with the cultivator: cut up and stacked September 20; husked October 9. Value of manure 4 dolls.; nett profit 37 dolls. 60 cents."

At the Chemung County Show, "J. L. Smith, of Southport, received a prize for the best acre corn, $\frac{1}{4}$ acre husked, which yielded $52\frac{1}{4}$ bushels of ears. This is certified to be an average of a lot containing between 3 and 4 acres, making 209 bushels of ears to an acre, long white eight-rowed variety. Soil, gravelly loam; had lain in meadow and pasture ten and twelve years, and had been foddered on some; had last spring a dress of 25 loads of long yard manure to acre; planted $3\frac{1}{2}$ by $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and thinned to 3 stalks in hill, hoed twice, and had half a bushel of plaster to the acre."

"And at the Greene County Show, the first premium for the best acre of corn was awarded to George Budd, producing 113 bushels and 19 pounds to the acre; also another acre, producing 92 bushels and 44 pounds.

"*Statement.*—The ground upon which the corn grew was in the spring greensward; it was ploughed but once, and that about the 15th of May. There was no manure of consequence put upon the best acre; but upon the other there were about four loads; it was furrowed about four feet and a half distant, and planted in drills from eighteen inches to two feet apart; it was weeded but twice."

A clay soil is not congenial to the growth of Indian corn; the best preparation for it is a clover ley, made rich by manure. If the manure is long and unfermented, spread it on the sod and plough in with a clean smooth furrow. But if the manure consists of compost, or if it has been made fine by fermentation, spread it on the furrow after the land has been ploughed, and incorporate it in the earth by thorough harrowing. Plough but once, and spare no pains to do it thoroughly. Plant early; keep the crop free from weeds, by frequently stirring the soil with the cultivator and hoe; and avoid hilling, especially for corn.

* Report of Commissioners of Patents to Congress in 1812.

† Trans. New York State Agr. Soc. vol. iii. p. 615.

The following statement shows the profit and loss of cultivation, and the plan pursued by a practical farmer :—

“ Mr. Samuel Phelps, a practical farmer of the town of Ida, in Cayuga County, begs leave to submit the following statements in regard to the cultivation of a piece of ground for raising a crop of corn during the past season, thinking thereby to subserve the great and important cause of agriculture, not only in this county, but throughout the country.

“ Twenty-two years ago I cleared off ten acres of new land on my farm, and sowed it the same season with winter wheat. The land descends gradually to the west. Eighteen years out of the twenty-two I have had crops on said piece of land, twelve of which crops were winter wheat ; six crops were spring crops ; the remaining four years I have used said piece of land for pasture. From the time of clearing to the present, said piece of land has never been manured, excepting by cattle, &c., running on it, and the stubble after taking off the crops. The crops of wheat taken from said ten acres of ground for the twelve years, averaged yearly twenty-seven and a half bushels to the acre, of first quality of wheat, making, in the aggregate, three thousand three hundred bushels of wheat. The spring crops have been proportionably good, frequently getting from fifty to sixty and even to seventy bushels of good corn to the acre. In the summer of 1842, I took a heavy wheat crop from said ten-acre piece. Between the 10th and 15th day of May last, I ploughed five of the ten acres for corn. I ploughed it but once, turning the wheat stubble under. Two acres out of the five I bestowed more particular attention to the cultivation of. After ploughing it once, I then harrowed it thoroughly with a four-square harrow lengthwise of the furrows. On the 17th day of May I planted the five acres with corn ; the seed I used was a mixture of the small yellow and white corn, about an equal quantity of either kind ; I put four kernels in each hill. It took two bushels of seed to plant the five acres. North and south the hills were three feet apart, and from east to west the hills were two feet apart. In the month of June I hoed the piece of corn twice, using the cultivator each time. In July I hoed the piece again, and for the last time. Between the 1st and 20th day of November last I harvested the five acres of corn, and drew from the same thirty-six waggon-loads of good sound corn ; each waggon load contained twenty-seven bushels of ears of corn, ascertained by actual measurement, making in the whole taken from said five acres of ground 972 bushels of ears of corn, and each bushel of ears weighing 37 pounds. From two acres of the five acres, which were cultivated with a view of obtaining the first and second premiums, lying in a body together, I took 19 waggon-loads, each load containing 27 bushels of ears of corn, each bushel weighing, as above, 37 pounds ; from one of the two acres I took 10 loads of ears of corn, each load containing 27 bushels of ears of corn, each bushel, as above, weighing 37 pounds.

"Expense of Cultivating said Five Acres of Corn, &c.

	DOLLS.	DOLLS.
"Five days' ploughing 5 acres, 12s.	7 50	
One day harrowing said 5 acres, 12s.	1 50	
Two bushels of seed corn, 4s.	1 00	
Seven days' plastering said 5 acres, 5s.	4 37½	
Expense of cultivating and hoeing said piece in the whole	16 12½	
Expense of harvesting said 5 acres in the whole ..	13 75	
Whole amount		41 25
<hr/>		
Bushels of ears of corn from said 5 acres ..	972	
Making of shelled corn, (bushels,)	486	
<hr/>		
Value of 486 bushels, at 44 cents per bushel ..	213 44	
Value of corn fodder taken from said 5 acres ..	10 00	
<hr/>		223 44
Deduct expense of cultivation, &c.		44 25
<hr/>		179 19"

Report of Experiments in the Manufacture of Corn-Stalk Sugar.

For which experiments a premium of one hundred dollars has been awarded by the New-York State Agricultural Society.—By M. ADAMS, of Ogden, Monroe County, N. Y.

It is now but three or four years since it was discovered that sugar could be made from the corn-stalk. Very little attention was given to the subject, until the appearance of a report made to Congress by Mr. Ellsworth, Commissioner of Patents. The account given by him of experiments made the preceding year, which he had collected from the different parts of the United States—the great amount of practical information embraced in the report, together with the very interesting and important character given to the subject, awakened public attention. The fact, too, that a new method of producing another almost indispensable article, discovered about the same time, and which had already been brought to considerable perfection, and proved so triumphantly successful, has perhaps had an influence in leading us to expect that soon sugar would be as easily produced from the corn-stalk, as oil now is from hog's-lard. Indeed, so obvious is it to every considerate person, that the position once established that sugar can be produced in this way, it is no less than bringing an article almost indispensable as a part of our daily food, and a most healthful and harmless luxury, as much within reach of every family in the United States, as the very corn has been from which it is produced.

Viewing the subject in this light, perhaps, induced the Executive Committee of the New-York State Agricultural Society, to offer the very liberal premium of one hundred dollars for the "best experiment" in testing the value of the crop, and the practicability of cultivating it. The thing was new—much expense must be incurred—a mill and other apparatus must be constructed—"the juice extracted by iron rollers, so as to obtain the maximum quantity of sugar"—one acre of northern corn, cultivated for the purpose, to be submitted to the test. With all the above requisitions, I have endeavoured fully to comply; and now, the last, but not least, to make a "full report of the process and expense," remains to be done.

So great is the interest felt upon this subject, that it is presumed a very minute account of the process will be expected. In the performance of this duty I must claim the indulgence of the committee, for the writing of reports is new business to me.

Raising the Corn.—One acre of ground was selected of a sandy loam, cultivated last year to ruta-baga; this was manured with thirty loads of the best

stable manure, well mixed in with the soil by twice plowing and harrowing. Corn planted the 13th day of May, with eight-rowed northern corn; the rows three feet apart one way, and hills eighteen inches the other, with from six to eight kernels in a hill. Corn came up fine, and was plastered the 31st of May; hoed the first time the 9th and 10th of June, the second time 24th of June. Cultivator run through it three times. The corn began to tassel the 18th of July, and was in full tassel the first of August.

Up to this time the crop had looked uncommonly well, but from the 1st of August a severe drought commenced, and continued until the crop was very materially injured. Some spots where the corn had grown most luxuriantly, withered and dried up; other parts of the field suffered less, so that on the whole there was some more than half of a good crop, or what there would have been if the season had continued favourable.

Cutting, Grinding, and Boiling.—Cut the first stalks, and made the first experiment at grinding and boiling, the 25th of August. The stalks at this time were quite green, but the produce was quite satisfactory, and appeared quite favourable for crystallizing. The juice was very abundant, of a greenish colour, very rich, thick and heavy, yet retaining all the flavour of the corn-stalk, until after cleansing and boiling.

August 30th, made the second batch. This was boiled in a shallow sheet-iron pan, clarified and strained according to the directions given in Mr. Ellsworth's report. From this batch was taken the specimen of sugar exhibited to the committee at the State Fair in Rochester.

Other experiments were made the 4th and 7th of September.

The object of these successive experiments was mainly to determine at what time the saccharine matter was sufficiently matured to make crystallized sugar.

On the 11th of September the stalks appeared in the right stage, and the cutting, grinding and boiling were commenced, and continued with little intermission until the whole was completed. The method pursued in this operation, was to keep a sufficient number of hands in the field to strip the leaves or blades, and cut off the tops as fast as the stalks were wanted for use; this labour was generally performed by boys. The corn-field being at a little distance from the mill, the horse used for grinding was put before a light waggon, driven to the field; the stalks were then cut and placed upon the waggon, (taking care to keep them straight and in order,) driven to the mill and ground without delay. A load of this kind in a light waggon, with lumber box, will make a batch of from fifteen to twenty gallons; this would be ground in about thirty minutes. Lime water was mixed with the juice while it was running from the mill. The juice is then strained through a flannel cloth into the pan, and heated, rather moderately, to the boiling point, when the scum is removed with a skimmer; then boiled rapidly for a few minutes. The syrup is then removed from the fire, and again passed through the flannel strainer, when the boiling is finished as rapidly as possible.

This process, from the cutting of the stalk to taking the sugar from the fire, could not possibly be performed in less than two hours; and if the batch was larger, would often exceed three. Five batches were made in one day, from which one hundred pounds of sugar was produced.

The Boiler.—The boiler, or pan, I made of a sheet of Russian iron, turned up at the sides and ends, lapped and rivetted at the corners; would hold about twenty-five gallons, five and a half inches deep, but from fifteen to twenty gallons is as much as would boil to advantage. This pan is placed upon an arch of brick, so that the fire comes in contact with only the bottom.

Mill.—To construct this was a matter of much more difficulty. Some drawings and descriptions are given by Mr. Ellsworth; but little more could be known from them than that there must be three rollers, so placed and put in motion that the stalks in passing between them should receive two crushings.

To plan and construct a mill, with the proper dimensions and with the strength required, so that the work of crushing the stalks should be performed with certainty and despatch, was no easy task. I flatter myself that I have in this been tolerably successful. The rollers and iron-work, patterns, &c. for my

mill were made by A. J. Langworthy, of Rochester, at a cost of sixty-five dollars. The whole weight of iron is about nine hundred pounds.

About one-half of the expense of the mill is in the horse-power. The iron rollers being placed horizontal, it was necessary to have a horse-power wheel and gearing in order to give them motion. If the more simple, and it would seem, at first view, less expensive forms, given in Mr. Ellsworth's report, had been adopted, placing the rollers perpendicular, the horse passing around them, the rollers must have been of large diameter in order to take through the length of a corn-stalk at one revolution of the horse. These large rollers, when made of iron, would have been very expensive, and probably not work as fast as the small ones I use, giving them a quicker motion by gearing. In my mill the circumference of the rollers has such a proportion to their motion, that their velocity is equal to about one-sixth the velocity of the horse; or, in other words, a corn-stalk six feet long will pass through between the rollers in the same time that the horse will walk thirty-six feet. The grinding is a beautiful operation, the amount of juice contained in the stalk is surprising to every one. The stalks in passing through the mill are crushed very fine, and the juice entirely separated from them by the pressure of the rollers.

Clarifying.—This has been to me a difficult, and to some extent an unsuccessful operation. All the various methods recommended by different persons who have made some experiments on corn-stalk sugar, and all that my own experience in clarifying maple sugar could suggest, failed of producing fully the desired effect. In all the failures which have been experienced to produce crystallized sugar, the cause should be sought here. Unless the juice of corn-stalks can be clarified, it is vain to expect a pure article of crystallized sugar. All the obstacles to the complete success of this enterprise are met at this point; but that they will be completely overcome, there cannot be the least doubt. Lime water applied to the juice as soon as it comes from the mill, one gill to fifteen gallons, was thought to produce the best effect. But experiments were made with various other things, such as milk, eggs, charcoal, &c.; these were used separately and combined, but nothing appeared to raise the scum as well and render the juice as clear and well-flavoured as the lime water. One experiment was made by filtering the juice through sand and charcoal. This rendered it very transparent and improved the taste, but there are very many objections to this process—the length of time required for the operation is a sufficient one.

Straining.—This operation is performed both before and after clarifying. The strainer used was a square yard of good new flannel, of fine texture; so great is the amount of mucilage or very minute particles of the corn-stalk contained in the juice, that the strainer has to be rinsed in water once or twice in straining a batch. The second time straining is rendered more difficult by the juice being hot, as the hands have to be used in forcing it through the cloth. As knowledge and experience are gained on the subject of clarifying, the straining will be dispensed with, except to pass the juice through a coarse strainer to remove some of the larger impurities. Some method will be discovered by which all this foreign matter will be removed in the operation of skimming.

Boiling.—This operation requires care and close attention, particularly when about ready to skim, and when the juice is concentrated to about the point desired. The more rapidly this operation is performed, the more perfect will be the crystallization. But, however necessary it may be, it is scarcely possible, with any apparatus that I have any knowledge of, to perform the whole labour of cutting, grinding, straining, skimming, and boiling, in the short space of one hour, as recommended by Professor Mapes of New York. If this is ever done, it must be in very small quantities, or some very improved method must be adopted.

In boiling, as soon as the scum begins to rise, the fire must be regulated with care, that time may be had for removing the scum before it shall be boiled in. If the operation of boiling and skimming be well performed, about one gallon of thick, heavy scum will be obtained from a batch of fifteen gallons. The syrup, when it becomes thick and nearly done, has a very beautiful appearance, in every respect equalling the best of maple syrup. To boil to the crystallizing

point, (which is a very uncertain one,) requires considerable care and discrimination. The same tests that are used for maple syrup are equally applicable to corn-stalk; as, for instance, when it will flake off, breaking short, from a dipper or stick—or string out between the thumb and finger, from half an inch to an inch in length, is perhaps the safest test. Very great care is necessary here, that it be brought to the right point and no more; and also in managing the fire, as a little blaze, or too strong a heat, is most sure to scorch, and this is fatal to crystallization.

Crystallization.—Difficulty has been found here by all that have made experiments with corn-stalk sugar; but perhaps every one has obtained a sufficient quantity that was well grained to satisfy him, that the difficulty was somewhere in the process of manufacture.

From recent observation I am inclined to think that I have kept my sugar in too cool a place. Two small parcels, left partly by accident where they received the warmth of a fire, were found well grained. But there is another difficulty after it is well crystallized, to make the molasses separate, or drain, as it is called: although the crystal appears to be as fine as was ever formed, still the molasses will not separate by any common methods used for maple sugar. As yet, I have not been able to procure any better specimen than that exhibited at the State Fair.

Amount from the Acre.

Although the quantity of stalks was so much diminished by the drought, yet six hundred pounds were obtained; this, it should be understood, is weighed when taken from the fire and before graining has commenced. If it were all well grained and the molasses separated, the weight of sugar would probably not be more than five hundred, and molasses one hundred.

In order more fully to determine the amount that might be produced from an acre of good corn, I measured two square rods of the best corn I had; the stalks were then cut, and their weight was 195 pounds; after grinding, the juice weighed sixty-nine pounds and measured nine gallons—from this I obtained twelve and a-half pounds of sugar. By this it would appear, that had the whole acre been as good as the two rods submitted to the test, one thousand pounds would have been the produce. And it would seem that this must be a safe calculation, as the stalks on the two rods were not as large as would be grown in a good season.

An equal amount by weight of large stalks of rank growth, and small ones that were grown thick, were ground separately; but as no material difference was found in the produce, my opinion is that the corn should be cultivated so thick that no ears will be produced.

Expense.

	Dollars.
For the rent of land	3 00
“ thirty loads of manure 1s. per load	3 75
“ drawing 30 loads manure 10c. per load	3 00
“ ploughing, harrowing, and fitting ground	2 34
“ planting, plastering, cultivating, and hoeing	5 87
“ seed-corn and plaster	0 68
“ spreading manure	0 88

The whole expense of raising one acre of corn-stalk 19 52

There is no part of the business that is so tedious as plucking the ears, stripping the leaves, and cutting off the tassel. A part of this labour was performed for the fodder that might be obtained from it, but it was not sufficient to pay; as the labour of plucking the ears was performed for this consideration, I am unable to say what it would cost; but this much is certain, it is needless for the most part, as no ears of any amount need be raised, if the corn is sufficiently thick. From the best estimate that I can make of the expense of stripping leaves and cutting the tassel, I think that a smart hand would perform the work on an acre in six days; therefore,

	Dollars.
The amount brought forward	19 52
To six days stripping leaves, &c. . . .	4 50

This is the whole expense up to the cutting of the stalks 24 02

It is somewhat difficult to come at the expense I was at in manufacturing the acre of stalks into sugar, so much was done by way of experiment. But as one hundred pounds were made one day, I shall take that as my guide, and call it a day's work for two hands to make one hundredweight.

	Dollars
The amount above brought down	24 02
To 12 days' work making sugar, at 6s. per diem	9 00
To use of horse and waggon, 6 days, at 8s. per diem	2 25
To $\frac{1}{4}$ cord of wood, at 12s. per cord	1 12

The whole expense of manufacturing the 600 pounds is 36 40

Or a fraction more than six cents per pound.

Some credit might be given for fodder, as a large amount of leaves or blades could be saved with a little extra labour while stripping them. The stalks, after being ground, are worth something; horses and cattle eat them very greedily when they are fresh from the mill.

Remarks and Suggestions, by way of Recapitulation.

1. If good crystallized sugar of pleasant flavour shall be produced from the corn-stalk, I can see no good reason why its manufacture shall not become as universal as the raising of corn. Every neighbourhood can as easily be supplied with its apparatus to make sugar as to make cider.

2. Corn should be grown so thick as to produce no ears. Some variety of corn that grows very large, like the "Ohio" or "Rocky Mountain," might be best; this latter is well adapted in some respects, as it is very little inclined to ears or leaves; cutting the tassel will not prevent earing, unless they are all cut and kept cut. The cutting of the stalk may commence as soon as the tassel is ripe. If the weather is warm, grind immediately; but if cool, or early in the morning, a little delay is not thought to be injurious.

3. Lime-water is perhaps the best for clarifying of anything yet discovered; but some agent that will more effectually cleanse from all deleterious or foreign matter is necessary. Science, with persevering experiment, will no doubt produce this result.

4. The less time occupied in boiling, the more perfect is crystallization. This is true of the maple juice, and probably more so of the corn-stalk. To boil to advantage, two pans should be provided.

5. Any man of ordinary ingenuity can make a pan in two hours, with no tools but cold chisel, punch, hammer, and six cents' worth of rivets.

6. I make no doubt that a mill with wooden rollers would answer a good purpose for a small operation, and small operations are what is wanted; let no man go into this business *largely* until there is more knowledge on the subject. A simple mill with two rollers, that might be built for five dollars, would crush the stalk and save most of the juice. No cog-wheels can be necessary; for if you turn one, the other must go. When experience has taught how to clarify, so that we may be sure of a good article, then will be time for more perfect and expensive machinery.

7. If the result of this enterprise depended on the amount of saccharine matter contained in the corn-stalk, its success would be certain. Estimates that have been made of the amount that might be made from an acre, have probably never been too high. Improvements in cultivation, and in finding the variety of corn best adapted, will no doubt greatly exceed these estimates.

8. The expense, as compared with maple, must be much in favour of corn-stalk. Of the expense of growing an acre of corn-stalks, every farmer may judge correctly; then compare the amount of fuel, the amount produced in a day, the expense of fixtures, and it is all vastly in favour of the corn-stalk. Only let the corn-stalk sugar have the delicious flavour and the beautiful

crystallization of the improved maple, and no longer will that pride of the forest be hacked and bored "with wicked hands," to obtain its sap.

May we not hope that Mr. Ellsworth's forthcoming report will throw much light on the subject? The collected experience of all that have been engaged in the business the past season, will soon be laid before Congress and the people. If Professor J. I. Mapes shall fulfil his pledge made in the last report, some scientific and practical information will no doubt be the result.

With these remarks, I submit this report. I have endeavoured to give a faithful and full account of my experiment. I am aware, that on some parts of this business I cannot speak as favourably as might be desired; but for myself, I have no fear of the result of the enterprise. I would beg leave to suggest, that a liberal premium be offered next year, for a given amount of corn-stalk sugar of the best quality. This might stimulate, not only a greater amount, but more careful experiment.

(From the "Indiana Statesman.")

Experiments in Sugar-making from the Stalks of Corn.

Mr. Editor,—As many of your readers may not have had the opportunity of seeing the accounts regarding the making of sugar from the juice of the corn-stalks, and as it is entirely a new business, it is perhaps well for all to publish what they have done; then the practice of each may thus be corrected by the experience of the whole. I am the more induced to do this, as I have this year succeeded beyond my most sanguine expectations, considering that I had, single-handed and alone, to do all that was necessary to a new and untried experiment. I send you herewith samples of the sugar and molasses. You will perceive there is more acid in them, than is usual in those of the sugar-cane—the reason for which I shall probably give you hereafter. In consequence of my corn being twice prostrated to the ground by two storms in the month of July, it was not more than one-fourth of a crop, and that the smallest of the stalks, as the large ones, after the second prostration, never rose again, but lay and took root, and were trampled on and destroyed in the subsequent operation of frequent passing through to pull off the ears. Those which were left standing, from their being so thin on the ground, and a generally moist season, were so constantly disposed to throw out ears, that I am inclined to believe they were not so rich in saccharine matter as if they had been placed under more favourable circumstances. I shall therefore not attempt, from this year's crop, to give any opinion as to the quantity of sugar per acre. From a small experiment made last year, I am inclined to believe it will be over 500 lbs. of sugar and molasses. As I believe this to be a very important subject to farmers, I will give a detailed statement of the process, from the planting of the corn to the graining of the sugar. The ground is first to be prepared in the usual way for growing corn. The corn to be planted in drills thick enough to leave the stalks from three to four inches apart; the rows about three feet apart, or a sufficient distance to allow the plough or cultivator to pass between. It must then be cultivated and kept clean, as corn usually is. As soon as the ears begin to form, or about the time they show silk, they must be pulled or cut off; (let us never forget that to Mr. W. Webb, of Wilmington, Delaware, is owing this discovery); this must be attended to from day to day, as long as it shows a disposition to form ears. Perhaps this may be the most conveniently done by the hooked knife used to strip off the blades.

I believe it may be planted in our climate any time from the 15th of April to the last of June; and it will be ripe accordingly from about the 15th of August to the last of September. When the blades begin to die about the middle of the stalk, I should think it was high time it were cut and pressed out; but as I have but little experience in the business, I don't know but it would be better to begin earlier. When ripe, the blades must be stripped off. For this purpose I have found great facility in a hooked knife; the hook about four or five inches, semicircular, straight below about two or three inches, with a tang to drive into a wooden handle about twelve or fifteen inches long. I

found this knife materially reduced what I otherwise found a very tedious operation. By reaching up as high as you think the stalk is large enough to contain any juice, and bringing the knife close to the stalk down to the ground, you will strip off all the blades on one side; by doing the same on the other side, you will generally complete the operation. The same knife will easily cut the stalk at the ground; and while it is in your hand, one blow will cut off the top. It is then to be thrown in rows to be carted to the mill, and the tops and blades may be secured for fodder. It would be well not to cut more in one day than can be pressed on that day and the next; and that cut should be placed in the shade as speedily as possible. My mill is three wooden rollers (of beech) fixed upright in a frame, similar to an apple mill; the centre roller has a shaft run up, through a frame, a sufficient height for the lever that the horse turns it by, to clear a person's head—say seven feet from the ground. The centre roller has cogs in it, working in holes in the two side rollers, (though I should think it would be better to have cogs in all the rollers.) The rollers are fourteen and a half inches in diameter, sixteen inches below the cogs, four inches cogs, and six inches above. The journals of all the rollers are six inches in diameter; the two outside rollers have boxes let into the frame, and made to fit up against the journals above and below, and are wedged by two wedges, each going through the mortises in the frame, so as to set up the two outside rollers against the centre one. On the back side of the left-hand roller is a scraper fastened to a piece of wood, and attached by two hiccory springs to the upright piece of the frame; (my scraper is a piece of saw-blade; a piece of hoop iron will answer;) it should be sufficiently wide to extend beyond the piece of wood to which it is attached, to admit the shell to lie on the back of it; this scraper should be so adjusted as to lie sloping against the roller, and spring off and on with its movement. On the back of the middle roller is a shell of a circle, one inch larger in diameter than the roller, and kept about that distance from it; and on the outside of the scraper, and pressed up against the piece of wood that the scraper is attached to, it is fastened to the frame in such a way as to be moved off and on at pleasure. I am thus particular in describing this because I had considerable difficulty in getting it to work well. When the arrangement described was completed, the stalks passed through without any difficulty. A trough or box is fixed underneath, so as to catch the whole of the juice wherever it may fall, which conveys it to a tub or bucket to be carried to the boilers. The horse goes to the left; the stalks are pressed in (about four at a time) between the right-hand and middle rollers; the scraper forces them off the right-hand roller, the shell confines them to the back of the middle roller, and by it they are carried round, and drawn in between the middle and left-hand roller, and after receiving a double pressure, come out on the front side where they went in. With this mill one person and one horse will press out about two barrels per day.

The next operation is the boiling. The arrangement must be such as to boil down the juice as rapidly as possible; granulation depends on the rapidity of boiling, and it need not be expected without it. Cane-juice is boiled down in about three quarters of an hour; I boiled down in about two hours, more or less. I have three iron kettles, from eight to ten gallons each, fixed in a brick arch—one kettle only immediately over the fire; the blaze and heat pass under the other two, through flues four inches deep; the bottoms of the kettles only are exposed to the fire. The juice is first passed through a sieve, to take out the coarser impurities; lime-water is then added, in proportion of a table-spoonful to a gallon. I think it probable this is not enough; experience can only inform us as to the proper quantity. Much, perhaps, depends on the state of the juice in regard to acidity. It is then put in the kettle farthest from the fire, and care must be taken that it is well skimmed before it comes to a boil; it is then passed to the next kettle, and fresh juice put in the first; it is next passed to the last kettle over the fire, where it is finished as rapidly as possible—any portion of scum to be removed at all times whenever it may appear. To those totally unacquainted with the business, the most difficult part is to ascertain when the boiling is carried to the point of granulation. Those

who are accustomed to the boiling of maple juice will, perhaps, have no difficulty; but for those who are not, I will give the little knowledge I possess. The granulating point is when it will raise Fahrenheit's thermometer to between 238 and 240 degrees; but as all do not possess a thermometer, we must depend on other indications. When it is raised to about 218 degrees, it begins to rise up, and would flow over the top of the kettle if small portions were not taken out with a ladle from time to time, and poured back again. This continues till the heat is raised to 225 or 226, when it begins to thicken, settle down in the kettle, and shows no more inclination to rise up. But the heat has still to be raised between 12 and 14 degrees before it is finished; the indications of which are—a smell of burnt sugar, bubbles burst with difficulty, and, as they do so, puffs of steam rush out; and if, by taking a small portion between the thumb and finger when moderately cool, it will draw a thread more than half an inch long, it is considered to be finished. From information which I have obtained from those acquainted with the boiling of cane-juice, the syrup begins to grain immediately after being taken from the kettles. I endeavoured to heat mine in the same way, as near as circumstances would permit, but the graining did not commence in less than from twelve to forty-eight hours; perhaps something depends on the quantity. The syrup, after it became cool, was poured into a common sugar or flour-barrel, where the whole grained, and the molasses flowed out through small holes in the bottom. The sugar, I believe, would be like any other coarse brown sugar, if the molasses were thoroughly drained out. The molasses is a little more acid than cane molasses usually is. This arises, perhaps, from the stalks being a little too old; or, perhaps, from not using lime-water enough: experience will most likely correct this. From want of time and conveniences, I made no experiments in the way of measuring or weighing, to ascertain the proportion between the juice and syrup, or the molasses and sugar. From experiments made last year, at several different times, twenty moderately well-grown stalks yielded a gallon of juice. One gallon of juice will probably yield from a tenth to an eighth of syrup; one pint of syrup weighs one pound and a half, and will yield by measure perhaps one-fourth molasses and three-fourths sugar. My stalks were, in all cases, raised on upland, and cannot be expected to be as large, or yield as much juice, as the rich bottoms of the Wabash would produce.

JOHN BEAL.

New Harmony, October 20, 1843.

Letter of J. T. Plummer.

Richmond, 12th month 12th, 1843.

In compliance with thy request to be informed of my success in sugar-making from the corn-stalk, I may say, so far, it is an entire failure. In every other respect it met my most sanguine expectations. My mill performed admirably; the juice was abundant and rich; it boiled down to a fair molasses in a short time, and continues in that state up to the present time. I carried out Professor Mapes's directions as far as practicable, but could never get the thermometer to rise higher than 226, and at this number the molasses was brought down to be as thick as *mush*: this failed to grain. I then tried W. Webb's plan, and have failed in that also. I then tried my own common sense, as I make the tree sugar, and in this I have failed. May I hope to be favoured with a copy of thy valuable report to Congress? Perhaps it may give some directions how to bring molasses to grain. It is, doubtless, one of the most valuable discoveries of modern time, if it can be brought to sugar down; and I see no reason why it cannot, for the molasses is as pure, and of as beautiful a straw colour, as any tree molasses we ever made. There is some simple chemical operation wanting, that we are yet ignorant of. Has Professor Mapes tried the experiments he promised, and did he succeed? Any information thee can furnish me with, will be thankfully received, and, if opportunity ever offers, be assured, shall be reciprocated by thy friend,

JOSEPH T. PLUMMER.

H. L. Ellsworth.

(To the Editor of the "Tennessee State Agriculturist.")

In compliance with a request set forth in the last number of the "Agriculturist," I now furnish you with such information as I possess on the subject of making sugar and molasses from the common corn-stalk, which, if you deem of sufficient importance, you may publish in your valuable journal.

Respectfully your obedient servant,

WILLIAM H. DEADERICK.

Having, during these hard times, felt somewhat restive under a heavy tax imposed by the necessity of providing sugar for the daily consumption of a large family, and stimulated by the essay of Mr. Webb on the subject of manufacturing sugar from corn-stalks, I determined, last summer, to give the project as fair trial as my entire inexperience in the business would permit. Accordingly, the construction of a small mill, with two rollers about 15 inches in diameter, was procured, and the first effort made with stalks from which the corn had been taken for the purpose of cooking. The juice, after standing half an hour to settle, was deposited in a bellmetal kettle to boil; and, when hot, a table-spoonful of lime-water was added for each gallon of juice. Before it became too thick for the purpose, it was again strained, and carefully skimmed during the whole process of the boiling. When boiled down to the point of crystallization, (which is indicated when a portion, taken whilst warm between the thumb and forefinger, can be drawn into a thread from a half to an inch in length,) it was removed from the fire, and a small quantity set aside for granulation. In about three days this process commenced, and after perhaps one-sixth part had crystallized, it ceased, and would proceed no further. The next trial was from stalks, the corn on which had just become too hard for table use. In like manner portions were set aside, and the next day granulation commenced, and twice as much underwent this process as in the first instance. The third essay was with stalks, the corn on which had nearly become hard enough for grinding. The syrup or molasses obtained from these was greatly inferior to the two first, and, although a part of it was kept for several months, never evinced any tendency to crystallize. It would thus appear, that the age of the stalk most congenial to the granulating-process is when the corn is just becoming too hard for the purpose of cooking. However, it will require further experience, positively to determine this question. The syrup thus procured was somewhat darker than honey, but perfectly transparent, and free from impurity, and pronounced superior, without exception, by numerous persons who partook of it, to either imported molasses or honey. It presented no other taste than that of a rich and luscious sweet, wholly free from any strong or unpleasant flavour, such as appertains to the articles just named. The sugar obtained did not, either in appearance or taste, differ more from Orleans sugar, than different lots of this article do from each other. The indisposition of the syrup to granulate fully, may perhaps be deemed discouraging; but, doubtless, future experience will develop some method to obviate this difficulty. Nevertheless, be that matter as it may, it will now be shown that this objection is not sufficiently formidable to prevent the substitution even of the corn-stalk syrup for Louisiana sugar and molasses. Sundry visitors, at various times, to the family of the writer, partook of their coffee clandestinely sweetened with this syrup, and, on being apprised of the deception, acknowledged that they did not perceive or suspect that it was sweetened with any other article than the one in common use for this purpose.

It is fair, however, to say, that when the attention was directed to the case, the coffee could be perceived to have a slightly acidulous taste, just as if the cream used in it was beginning to turn sour. This trivial peculiarity, however, of the syrup, was not considered objectionable by any person. The preferable and most convenient mode, however, is to add the syrup (about a table spoonful for each individual who may be expected to partake) to the coffee, when first made, and boil it altogether. The taste of the coffee managed in this way, cannot be distinguished from that sweetened with the best Orleans sugar. Suffice it to say, that the syrup, for more than a month, was used in the writer's family, as a substitute for sugar, with entire satisfaction. It was tried in

making preserves, which, I believe, were just as good as if made with brown sugar. Sweet-cakes were made at the same time with both articles, and no one could tell which were of the sugar, and which of the molasses. But be it remembered that, in order to realise these, the article must be *carefully made* in the way indicated above.

One hundred large corn-stalks will afford ten or eleven gallons of juice, which, when boiled down to the point of crystallization, will yield one gallon of syrup. One acre of ground drilled with corn one foot apart, in rows three feet asunder, will give about 14,000 stalks. Of course, those (at 100 stalks per gallon) would yield 140 gallons of syrup, suitable for any of the purposes for which brown sugar is used. If intended for molasses, it need not be boiled down so thick, and will, probably, make 160 or 170 gallons.

Of sugar it requires 3 drachms ($\frac{1}{4}$ oz.) by weight, to sweeten an ordinary-sized cup of coffee. Of the syrup it requires, also, three drachms by measure to do the same. Now, as there are just as many drachms in a pint as there are in a pound, it follows, that a pint of the syrup is equal to one pound of sugar, or one gallon to eight pounds. Of course, then, the 140 gallons of syrup, the produce of an acre of land, are equivalent to 1,120 lbs. of sugar. The whole business of gathering, stripping, and grinding the stalks, can be performed by boys from seven or eight, to twelve or thirteen years of age.

The experiments recited above, assuredly justify the following conclusions, to wit: Any individual possessing only a small portion of land, can, with a little labour, and no expense after the mill is once erected, supply his family with sugar and molasses. No real necessity exists for Tennessee, or any other corn-growing country, to import a single hogshhead of sugar, or barrel of molasses; inasmuch, as the first, equal, and the second superior to the corresponding articles, of Louisiana production, can be obtained from the corn-stalk, with half the labour required to produce them from the sugar-cane. Against the next season I design to have constructed a more efficient mill, with three rollers, say 20 inches in diameter, and shall thenceforward consider myself released from the expenditure complained of in the commencement of this article.

The following is an extract from the Report of the Committee on Maple and Corn-stalk Sugar, at the New York State Agricultural Fair:—

"The Committee have great pleasure in stating that Mr. M. Adams, of Ogden, in Monroe County, has gone into the experiment of manufacturing sugar of corn-stalks; and for one acre of the 'eight-rowed yellow northern corn,' he has constructed an iron mill for crushing the stalk, and expressing the juice, which answers the purpose admirably; but it is yet too early in the season to know the result of the experiment, as a part only of the corn-stalks have been gathered and manufactured, and the remainder are yet standing in the field.

"Mr. Adams has, however, already made about four hundredweight of sugar, a sample of which he has submitted to your Committee, and which, though not yet clarified, appears to be of a fair quality, capable of equalling the best of sugar made from the cane. The stalks still on the ground, he thinks, will make four hundredweight more sugar; but, had it not been for the excessive drought which has prevailed in that section of the country, he is satisfied that the acre planted and experimented upon by him would have produced ten hundredweight of sugar, which was the rate yielded by two rods of the land which he measured off, the proceeds of which he worked up by itself.

"Upon the whole, Mr. Adams is perfectly satisfied that sugar can be made in this part of the country, from corn-stalks, of superior quality and flavour, and equal in every respect, to the best sugar made from the cane, and so as to remunerate well for its manufacture. He proposes, at the next meeting of the Society, to present a full report of his present experiment; and your Committee have great confidence that it will be of such a nature, as not only to entitle Mr. Adams to the premium offered by the Society, but to the praise of being the first to carry into actual operation an experiment that has been anticipated as the source of great wealth and benefit to the agricultural interests."

Adams' Basin, December 26, 1843.

Dear Sir,—I hasten to comply with your request for information as to the "successful experiment" which you learn I have made in the manufacture of corn-stalk sugar. I regret to inform you, that my success has not been so great as was at one time anticipated. I engaged in the experiment with very sanguine expectations. They have in every respect been realised, except in the graining; in this, to some extent, I have been unsuccessful. A part of my syrup, I am satisfied, never will grain. It was not properly cleansed from mucilage, and fermentation was the consequence. I now think that the great difficulty with my good syrup is, that it has been kept too cold. Two small parcels, left (partly by accident) where they received the warmth of a fire, were found very well grained. The first batches that I made, appeared as if they would grain well; from one of them was taken what was called a very fair sample of sugar, and exhibited at the great fair at Rochester. The high expectations formed by the Committee and myself, at that time, have not been fully realised. But a part of my crop was then cut. The weather was then warm and fine; but it soon came on cool, the granulation ceased, and from that time has remained stationary. Not knowing what to do, is one reason, (but a principal one is, two months' confinement by sickness), why I have not made some experiments upon it. With my now returning health, I hope yet to produce a good article of sugar from most of my remaining syrup. The process that I pursued, from beginning to end, was the same as recommended by Mr. Webb and others, in your report of last year. No difficulty was experienced, until we came to the boiling, straining, and skimming. Various things were tried for clarifying the juice, but nothing was thought to be as good as the clear lime-water. This was added while the juice was running from the mill, and then passed through a fine flannel strainer into the pan, well skimmed before boiling, and then strained again; and the boiling continued as rapidly as possible. With my greatest exertion, I could not complete the whole process, from the cutting the stalk to the taking the sugar from the fire, in less than two hours. My boiler was a pan five inches deep, made of Russia iron; would hold twenty-five gallons, but my ordinary charge was from fifteen to twenty. I planted an acre of corn for the purpose, built a mill with iron rollers; made from the acre, six hundred pounds, weighed in the syrup when condensed to the crystallizing point. An uncommonly severe drought lessened my crop nearly one-half. From a careful experiment made with two rods of the best corn, I had measured and weighed by itself, shows that the produce, had it been equally good, would have been one thousand pounds. In cultivating the corn, plucking off the ears, &c., I followed the directions given in your report. I satisfied myself by weighing a quantity of large stalks of rank growth, and an equal amount of small stalks, that grew thick together, that it is best to grow the stalks so thick that no ears will be produced.

There are several things relating to this corn-stalk sugar enterprise, that I think are now established beyond a question. One is, that corn-stalks, when properly cultivated, contain an abundance of saccharine matter, and that it can be converted into good crystallized sugar. Another is, that the amount that may be produced from an acre has probably never been over-estimated.

Again: the remarkable difference between stalks that have produced corn, and those that have not, as regards their sweetness. But there are some four or five things, that need to be made as clear, and to be as well established, before complete success will attend our efforts.

1st. There must be something more effectual than clear lime-water, for clarifying the juice. After the juice is passed through a common strainer, to remove the coarser matter which it may contain, something should be added, that will perfectly collect all the feculent particles, and all foreign matter, into a curdy precipitate, that will rise to the surface when the boiling commences, when it may be removed by the skimmer.

2d. Some means by which crystallization may be sure, and more perfect. It is altogether probable that the difficulties here would be very much lessened, if not entirely removed, by remedying the difficulties in the first case.

3d. The point of concentration should be so defined, that it may be boiled to that point, without going beyond it.

4th. Draining, or removing the molasses from the grained sugar. So far as my experience goes, I have found much difficulty here. The common methods by which maple sugar is made to drain freely, will have little or no effect when applied to corn-stalk sugar. When the crystals are well formed, the whole mass seems to be of an adhesive, gummy nature, that renders it strongly retentive of its molasses.

5th. A corn-stalk taste to the sugar. This would be a very serious objection, if it could not be obviated.

At these five points lie all the obstacles in the way of complete success. These can and will be overcome. To my own mind, it is clear that all these difficulties lie, mostly, in the first case—namely, not properly clarifying the juice.

It is, no doubt, highly important that the whole process, from the cutting of the stalk, should be performed with all possible despatch; but I cannot imagine how it can be performed in the short space of time recommended by Professor Mapes. It must be with some apparatus of which I have no knowledge, or else it must be done in very small batches. I trust we shall hear more from that gentleman in your forthcoming report; also from many others that have engaged in the business during the last season.

Thus I have endeavoured to give you some idea of what I have done, and made some suggestions, probably, without giving one new idea on the subject. If, indeed, I have done that, I shall be amply rewarded. I feel a deep interest in this enterprise, and nothing discouraged by my partial failures this year. I intend to engage in it next year, having a first-rate mill and other apparatus, besides a small stock of experience, to which I hope to make great additions from the experience of others.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,

M. ADAMS.

Hon. H. L. Ellsworth,
Commissioner of Patents.

• *Letter of Rev. L. Humphrey on Corn-stalk Sugar.*

Edwardsburg, January 15, 1844.

Sir,—I rejoice you are collecting and sending abroad important information upon the subject which you mention.

From the notice which you have seen respecting my experiments in making sugar from corn-stalks, it is possible that too high expectations have been raised in the community, as I have attended to it only on a small scale, under many disadvantages. I very cheerfully comply with your request to inform you as to my mode, success, difficulties, &c.

I would say to you, sir, that I at first commenced my experiments in the early part of the season of 1842, soon after the corn-tassel had come out. Having but very little information upon the subject at that time, of course I could not expect to accomplish much. I at first passed a few stalks through a hand-machine, after the leaves were stripped off from the stalk. This experiment fully answered my expectation. I then set about procuring a mill to be operated by a horse. As there was no one in my neighbourhood who had seen a machine of that description, it was difficult to engage any one to undertake the business for a considerable time. After the machine was prepared, it was found necessary to make repeated alterations before it would operate to advantage. In the mean time the corn was getting ripe, and the frosts came before much could be accomplished. I, however, made some sugar and several gallons of molasses, which was by numbers pronounced equal, and by some superior, to that from the cane. Five gallons of the juice, after having been expressed, would produce about one gallon of thick molasses. The ears of corn were plucked from day to day to give my swine, from early roasting until the corn was quite ripe. The stalks earliest deprived of ears, of course, were much the sweetest; but even those where the corn had become glazed furnished a pretty good supply.

Before I commenced boiling the juice, I have generally passed it through a woollen cloth, and after putting it into the kettle, immediately added a spoonful or a spoonful and a half of quick lime, of the consistence of cream, to each gallon. Then I commenced the operation of heating, rather slowly at first, so that the scum might have opportunity to rise and be removed before the boiling commenced. As soon as the scum is all removed, let the boiling proceed as rapidly as possible by a steady fire, so that the liquor need not rise and fall, but continue a steady evaporation until it becomes syrup. It may then be put into another vessel to settle two or three hours, or over-night, if convenient. When sufficiently settled, it may be drawn off, or carefully poured from the sediment. Then a quick fire should be raised, and the syrup should, during the remaining process of boiling, be kept as nearly as possible in one place. To prevent it boiling over, a little butter may be put into the kettle or boiler, and, in addition to that, a small bushy stick (that is, a stick with small thick limbs) should be held in the boiler, just within the top of the foaming liquid, constantly moved with a quick horizontal motion, until the necessary evaporation is completed, which may be known by partially cooling a little of the syrup, (say a spoonful), and dipping the thumb and finger into it, and then suddenly separating them. Should a small fibre be produced by the operation an inch long, it is supposed to be boiled enough to put into shallow vessels to granulate. It has been said by some that much advantage is gained by boiling in shallow broad vessels. Of this I have not had sufficient experience to give my opinion. I can, however, say, that when I have had the evaporation performed as quick as possible, there has been much less of what some call the strong corn taste, than when the evaporation has been gradual.

Before I commenced the rapid boiling by a quick fire, I found the syrup was very liable to be scorched; and it was some time before I could be convinced that a hot fire was less likely to produce a bitter taste than a moderate one. After all, it is according to philosophical principles that it should be so. So long as the boiler is constantly moistened with the liquid, and never suffered to rise above that point, there would be little or no danger of scorching, however great the heat. But if it should be suffered alternately to rise and fall, it is easy to see that, when the boiler should become nearly red-hot, and then the syrup dashed upon it suddenly, the bitter taste would be likely to be produced immediately. Too much care will not be likely to be used in this particular in the manufacture of sugar from corn-stalks. Some, perhaps, may consider it of but little consequence, but experience, I think, will show it to be of vast importance. Should a suitable process be instituted and carried forward, I know of no reason whatever why the best quality of refined sugar cannot be obtained from corn-stalks. To show you that molasses has been, and can be, manufactured from corn-stalks, which will be preferred to the article manufactured from cane, I will state one fact: a gentleman in my neighbourhood, who had an opportunity in 1842 to purchase cane molasses within a few rods of his door for 66 cents per gallon, came to me, and of his own accord offered me 75 cents per gallon for the molasses which I had made from corn-stalks, although I had then but very little experience in the business. In 1843, the article which I manufactured was decidedly preferable to that of 1842.

I would remark, that the past season was very dry in Michigan, when the stalks were forming, and, of course, the juice did not contain probably one-half of the saccharine matter as the year before. I was not in a situation that I could well attend to the extra care of boiling for sugar, so that I made none in 1843. I am sanguine in my hopes that, after a few years, most families who raise corn can manufacture their own sweets and vinegar without any great expense. As I suppose you wish to benefit the common people generally, I will now proceed to describe the mill which I use, and the manner of feeding it. It is in form like an old-fashioned cider-mill; the cylinders are 20 inches in diameter, turned smooth; 18 inches in length, the same bigness. The upper part of one is sufficiently small to enter a crooked sweep placed on the top, and sufficiently long to be turned around by one horse with ease. Near the top of the cylinders, where they are of a size, into the one attached

to the sweep, cogs are inserted, with corresponding mortices in the other cylinder.

In feeding the mill, the stalks, after being deprived of their leaves and tassels, are laid upon a platform near the hopper, the small ends towards the mill. If the stalks are large, only one may enter between the cylinders at once, but the operation may be repeated as often as necessary, observing to have the butt ends pass singly, but in quick succession. In this way the stalks may be passed through the mill about as fast as a man can take them up. Unless the mill be made very tight by keys, it may be necessary to pass the stalks through the mill twice; but the second time it may be done probably three times as quick as the first time. There will then be no special need of care with respect to the butts, and several may be passed at the same time. The mill will need to be strongly built, especially if it is sufficiently tight to express all the juice by once passing through.

The mill I have described may answer common purposes; but if persons wish to go extensively into the business, it may be suitable to have cast-iron cylinders smoothly turned, and so geared as to run horizontally, and from two to three feet long, thus giving an opportunity of throwing in a number of stalks at once. The boiling should commence as soon as may be after the juice is expressed, to prevent fermentation, and the mill should be frequently washed with cold water.

From the experience I have had upon the subject, I am inclined to believe that syrup will soonest granulate in the early part of the season—that is, soon after the silk is formed. My best success in this respect was early; after having boiled the juice to thick molasses, I put into it nearly twice its quantity of cold water, and boiled it again to a proper consistency; then put it into a shallow vessel, and the sugar began to granulate in less than a week.

It has been said by some, that corn for sugar should be drilled in planting, so as to have the stalks not more than three or four inches apart in the row one way, and about two feet six inches from row to row. It is possible that the same quantity of stalks may contain more saccharine matter, planted in that way, than if the stalks were permitted to grow large; but it can easily be perceived that it will take nearly as much time to strip the leaves and handle a small stalk as a large one; and the quantity of juice from the latter will be much the greatest. In whatever way the corn may be planted, I am fully convinced the land should be so manured and cultivated as to produce a large crop, to make it the most profitable for sugar.

I have entered much more into particulars than I anticipated when I commenced answering your letter, and probably the details may be entirely superseded by communications which you may receive from those far more experienced in this comparatively new, but, as I think, very important business.

Very respectfully, yours, &c.

LUTHER HUMPHREY.

Hon. H. L. Ellsworth.

Letter of Messrs. Hubbard and Burdick on Corn-stalk Sugar.

Kalamazoo, 1844.

Sir,—Your letter asking information relative to our success in the manufacture of sugar from corn-stalks was duly received. From various reports, and your published information and opinion in relation thereto, we were induced to try the process, and built us a mill, for grinding the stalks, of the following description:—Three wooden rollers, twenty-one inches in length, and twenty inches in diameter, with a concave on the back side to carry the stalks through, and which brought them out at the same side they were put in.

The experience we have had is limited. The drought in this place having been of long continuance, rendered the stalk of little value to yield juice, and we cannot, therefore, give you any fair statement of what can be made per acre; neither had we any means of ascertaining, by reason of the stalks being brought us from different places, and in small parcels, and at different times.

We are, however, strongly inclined to the opinion that there might be made from 500 to 600 pounds per acre—allowing the season to be good, and the apparatus of good construction, and in order for making the same; nor can there be a doubt that it may yet be made a great source of wealth to this western country, when it is properly understood how to make it to the best advantage.

Our manner of process was, after extracting the juice, (by horse power,) to boil it in pans made of tin, of fourteen sheets each, with sides of wood six inches wide, and which held about a barrel and a half, placed over arches; and by boiling the juice down one hour, it was fit to place in pans for graining. It requires great care and attention to prevent burning it. We made a quantity of sugar, but more molasses, which was a good article; and, from the trial we have given it, convinces us that sugar from the corn-stalk is within reach of every farmer who cultivates land for this purpose.

One fact we ascertained—by stripping the stalks clean, and weighing them before and after passing through the mill—that they had lost more than one-half of their weight; so that is clearly evident there is at least one-half juice in the stalk.

We would offer a few remarks as to the best mode of constructing mills to extract the juice from the stalks. Say, have two iron rollers of twenty inches in diameter, and two feet long, with iron gudgeons of three inches in diameter, with cogs attached to the same, placed horizontally. The rollers should be at least two inches thick, to move by horse or water power, with about the same velocity as a common cider-mill.

Boiling.—We think the best way is to boil the juice, after cleansed with the milk of lime, to a moderate syrup; take it off, and let it stand about six hours; then carefully drain it from the dregs, adding about one tablespoonful of salcratus, when dissolved, to three gallons of syrup; boil until it operates exactly the same as does maple sugar.

We remain, sir, respectfully, yours,

DAVID HUBBARD.

IRA BURDICK.

Hon. H. L. Ellsworth.

Letter of Messrs. Tillotson on Corn-stalk Sugar.

New River, Louisiana, November 1, 1843.

Dear Sir,—According to promise, we send you the result of our experiment on corn-stalk for sugar; also, the product per acre from sugar-cane; for, by comparing the two, the question whether the corn-stalk can be profitably manufactured must be decided.

We planted, the 8th of April, 1843, four acres in corn, in drills; half of which were three, and half four feet apart; and when thinned out, the stalks stood about three inches apart in the rows.

The corn was well cultivated and in fine condition; ploughed three times, hoed twice, and harrowed once, and grew large.

The embryo ears were taken off three times, and before the kernels were formed.

It was cut, rolled, and boiled on the 28th of July, after the tassels were dead, and the fodder beginning to dry. It was topped about five feet high, and a very little above, when the embryo ears were taken. The bottom of the stalk appeared more juicy and ripe than the top. The 4 acres produced 60 cart (body) loads, and yielded 1,800 gallons of juice, weighing 8 degrees by the syrup-weighter, which, when boiled to the granulating point (139 degrees Beaumé's thermometer, or 44 degrees by the saccharometer,) produced 200 gallons of syrup, and showed no appearance of granulation after standing two months in the coolers; the cause of which was probably owing, in part, to the unripeness of the corn-stalk when cut; but, provided it had granulated as well as usual for the cane syrup, it would have produced 1,300 lbs. of sugar, and 82 gallons of molasses.

Cost of Cultivating and Manufacturing four acres of Corn—man and team.

	Dollars.
4 days preparing ground	4 00
1 day opening furrows	1 00
1 day covering corn	1 00
2 days, one person dropping	1 00
1 day ploughing corn	1 00
8 days hoeing	4 00
1 day harrowing	1 00
2 days ploughing, second time	2 00
4 days hoeing	2 00
2 days ploughing, third time	2 00
10 days taking off ears	5 00
4 days, second	2 00
4 days, third	2 00
12 days cutting for mill	6 00
5 days loading carts	2 50
3 days hauling	3 00
8 horses rolling 9 hours	4 00
4 drivers	2 00
4 persons feeding mill	2 00
1 person and horse carrying bagasse	1 00
4 kettlemen boiling	2 00
2 firemen, 9½ hours	1 00
4 cords wood	8 00
Expenses	59 50
1,300 lbs. sugar, at 5 cents	65 00
82 gallons molasses, at 20 cts.	16 40
Product of 4 acres	81 40
Product of one acre, dlrs. 20 35	
Deduct expenses	59 50
Net product of 4 acres	4)21 90
Net product of one acre	5 47

Cost of Cultivating and Manufacturing four acres of Sugar-cane.

	Dollars.
4 days preparing ground	4 00
1 day opening furrow	1 00
10 days stripping and dropping	5 00
1 day covering with plough	1 00
1 day covering with hoe	50
1 day barring with plough	1 00
12 days first hoeing	6 00
1 day harrowing	1 00
2 days second ploughing	2 00
8 days second hoeing	4 00
2 days third ploughing	2 00
8 days third hoeing	4 00
16 days cutting for mill	8 00
4½ days hauling 100 loads	4 50
5 loaders, 30 hours	3 75
8 horses, 30 hours rolling	13 00
4 drivers	6 00
4 feeders for mill	6 00
4 kettlemen	6 00
2 firemen	3 00
16 cords of wood	32 00
1 man and cart carrying bagasse	3 00
Putting up sugar	50
Expenses	117 25

Product of four acres of cane, 8,000 lbs. sugar, at 5 cents per lb.	400 00
480 gallons molasses, or 60 per hhd. sugar, at 20 cts.	96 00
Product of 4 acres of cane	496 00
Expenses of cultivation and manufacturing	117 25
Net product of 4 acres of cane .	4378 75
Net product of 1 acre of cane .	94 68

According to our test, the corn-stalk required very little lime, and that principally to get the temper. The most simple mode of ascertaining the striking point (or when the syrup is boiled sufficiently), and one of the most perfect, is by dipping into it a small skimmer (milk skimmer), and blowing through it; and when the bubbles rise on the opposite side, in diameter (say) three-fourths of an inch, and before they blow off, the boiling is completed.

Objections may be made to many of our calculations, but the result will be nearly the same. We admit that an extraordinary yield of corn-stalk may produce double this amount; the same may be said of sugar-cane—2,000 lbs. per acre is a common yield for good plant cane, and seldom has a season passed without our making it.

We have just commenced making sugar this season, and rolled none but ratoon cane (which usually produces much less than plant cane), and it produces exceeding 1,000 lbs. per acre, and this has been an unfavourable season for cane. The juice of the corn, as before stated, weighed eight degrees. The juice of the cane we are rolling weighs eight degrees also, and by lowering the knives (topping lower) it would weigh nine and a half degrees, and later in the season it will be still sweeter.

We think it an error to suppose the sugar-cane will not mature in this country. Cane, like the corn-stalk, begins to ripen from the bottom. True, the seasons are too short to mature entirely to the top, though often they do mature six or seven feet high. We are now cutting from two to four feet.

It seems to us, making sugar or molasses from corn-stalks is impracticable, except far in the interior, or far from water or railroad communication.

It appears to be overlooked by some writers on the subject, that sugar-cane, in this country, is only planted once in three, four, or five years—usually every three years; that three, four, or five crops are taken from one planting.

We have often made exceeding a hogshead or 1,000 lbs. from an acre, the fifth season after planting; thus making from one planting, six to eight hogsheads of sugar.

The longer the ratoons are cultivated, the drier (the less juicy) the cane becomes.

We doubt not, many of our sugar-planters may doubt the correctness of this statement; nevertheless it is true, and we trust none who know us will question the statement. It is customary to burn off, early in the spring, the trash or leaves from the cane-fields. We seldom burn any, but rake them into the centre, between the rows, and bar the cane, turning the furrows on them, where they soon form manure to nourish more vigorously the plant, and the better to protect the ratoons for the succeeding crops.

In expressing the juice, some use steam mills. We use horses and mules, believing them cheaper, as they are all needed to work the crops. We work twenty-four horses to one mill, making three changes; eight horses carry the mill, and are capable of taking off a crop of 400 hogsheads of sugar.

Our mill, cylinders, housing, and wheels are cast-iron, with wrought-iron journals, and composition or brass boxes; cylinders three and a half feet in length, by two feet in diameter, and work horizontally, cost about 2,000 dollars. The cost of a mill suitable for expressing twenty-five gallons of juice per hour from corn-stalks, worked by one horse, would probably not exceed 300 dollars, if all made of iron; wooden housing, on which the cylinders and boxes set, would answer well, and the expense would be much less.

We were in hopes to be able to send you more favourable results.

Very respectfully, yours,

S. & R. TILLOTSON.

Hon. H. L. Ellsworth,
Commissioner of Patents.

Letter of Mr. Webb on Corn-stalk Sugar.

Wilmington, December 30th, 1843.

Dear Sir,—I have never received the letter of which you speak, on the subject of maple sugar; but I have received one from you on the subject of corn and cane sugar, written by S. & R. Tillotson, which is herewith returned as requested. In relation to the communication of these gentlemen, I would remark, that they estimate the profit of cane culture much higher than my former information had led me to consider it. The net annual revenue of many Louisiana planters must (according to their estimate) equal, if not exceed, the salary received by the President of the United States. But, as I have no practical acquaintance with the subject, I will not presume to doubt the correctness of their calculations. Their experiment with corn appears to have been well conducted, and I have no fault to find with any part, except the inferences which they have drawn from it. It does not follow because *they* have failed, that others may not succeed; or that they themselves may not in future arrive at a more favourable result. It may be that a more northern latitude is better suited to the crops. I have never known the juice to weigh so light as eight degrees. Here it has uniformly ranged from nine to ten degrees. The fact that their syrup failed entirely to granulate, shows that there must have been something wrong either in the crop or in its manufacture; and, of course, no certain inference can be drawn from the result of their experiment. But, admitting that no objections of this kind could be urged, has it not been just as completely proved, by careful experiment, that steamboats could never succeed? Has it not been theoretically demonstrated, on scientific principles, that railroads could never be used as a means of rapid communication? Such cases have been too numerous, and are too well known, to require any more than a mere allusion to them. It may be considered as settled, that the manufacture of corn-sugar, in the large way, cannot be profitably carried on by the process which succeeds with cane. There is a foreign substance in the syrup, which this process fails to remove, and which prevents its speedy granulation. This is a great objection to the manufacture on a large scale; and, though it cannot be considered an insurmountable one, it must be admitted that it has not yet been obviated.

The family manufacture, by farmers, can, however, be safely recommended as entirely practicable, for the syrup may be used to the same advantage in a liquid as in a solid state. If, in manufacturing, evaporation is hastened by the use of flat-bottomed pans, with such other arrangements as will insure its speedy accomplishment, and the syrup, after being boiled sufficiently, is kept at a temperature not under seventy degrees, it will never fail to granulate. It has been found, from experience, that pans made of Russia sheet iron, six inches deep, are well suited for evaporation. It must not be forgotten, when corn is cultivated for sugar, that it is not the only valuable product which may be secured.

The leaves and tops from an acre of corn (planted closely), are equal in value to an acre of good grass.

The Messrs. Tillotson found the expense of growing and manufacturing one acre of corn for sugar, to amount to fifteen dollars. If we admit that the produce of an acre in hay is worth an equal sum, then it follows that, whatever sugar or molasses may be made, is so much clear gain.

I am, respectfully, yours,

WILLIAM WEBB.

Hon. H. L. Ellsworth,
Commissioner of Patents.

REMINISCENCES OF THE ISLAND OF CUBA.

BY CHARLES F. ELLERMAN, ESQ.,

AUTHOR OF "THE AMNESTY; OR, THE DUKE OF ALBA IN FLANDERS;" &c. &c.

CHAPTER XVI.

Mrs. Smith's *Essay* on the Havanese Ladies.

Awana, — Decr. 184—.

MY DEAR MARGERY,—I am very much ixtonnished at your silence, considerin as that you be so fond of communicatin all the gossup of the neighborhood to your loving cousin; but then I recollect the proverb, Out of sight, out of mind—a vulgar saying, but a true. We ave not gone yet to the interior of the hisland, but are going—but were, Peter alone knows. You wud ardly know Peter, he has so completely changed—not in looks, but in sentiments.

You remumber, Margery, what a herrant Tory he was—how he stood hup for Church and State, which he always compared to them unnatural fellers the Sighanese tewins. The ceparation of them two would cause death, so the doctors said. Well, Peter hused to say the same of Church and State. "Ceparate them," said he, "and our Konstitution will crumble into toothpowder, and die the death of the tewins. That orrible Yankee Peabody and hothers have kompletely undermined the principals of your cousin my usband. If his hancesters could but look down and see the hawful change that is come over him, they would be cuite shocked—cuite. He air't alf as heristocraticle as he hused to be; tho', to do him justice, I must say he do not simpatize with them who preach hequality among men and women. I ate politics, and don't understand them; but this I know, that as Free Trade is becoming all the rage, Peter as hallowed himself to be decoyed into a subscription for the League. Well, I never!—

I ope you take grate care of the damask curtains, and keep the smoke hof them; tho', to tell you the truth, sugars have riz, and Peter's spec has sicceedid phamusly. If, as he says, Goverment reduces the duty, he will make his fortune; and if, as he opes one day to phill the post of Lord Mare, he will make all the citizens stair. He talks of per-chasing a quitrin and two mules, but hasn't made hup his mind as concerns the calessero—and it's of no huse to bring a black slave to London, where he would be free, and praps leave us for some nobleman's service as flunkhay. Servants are the plague of one's life—always ungrateful, and a quitrin would look nothing without a black jockey on a mule, with the leggins to boot.

We was at the theater the t'other nite. Sich fun, they said, tho' I couldn't understand the hitalic singhers. I've made hup my mind,

Margery, to learn hitalian, as Peter as promised me a box at the hopera when we go back to town. All the purformance was in hitalian, except the dansing, which Peabody said was Handylusian. I thought the dansing the best, for I could hunderstand that. It was beautifull to see the Bullhero, but I liked the Catchewka the best. Lor! what funny names! all derivated from wild beasts. One, I believe, they calls the Fanny Dango. How curious! ain't it?—that's derived from a female. I must confess that I was rather shocked at seeing the *females* show their legs; and Peter made me furious cuite, by keeping the double hopra glass, which MacGuinness calls *Shoemelles* (some French name), constantly to his heyes. I told him several times that he would hinjure his sight, but he purtended to be as deif as a post. I card him and Peabody passing jokes on Fanny Hellsler; for the last-named said, with a giggle, whilst she made a most hawfully-grand peruit, that it was the *knee plus hultra* of dansing—which piece of whit I'm sure he discovered on the Spanhish dollars, the motto of ercules. Ercules, you know, was the gent what killed the boar constricter, and afterwards made a cloke of his skin. He was a great warrior in his day; so they made a god of him, and sent him hup among the stars. If a man of his stamp was made a god merely for killing of wild beasts and fiery dragons with pisonous breath, what ought we to make *the* Duke, who effectuated fifty times greater wonders than he with his club? Well, time will show, onyow.

I must tell you, that the *teatro Tacon* is one of the most magnificientest theaters I ever saw. There is nothing in London to equal it—not even old Drewry, and when full persents a splendid sight. The boxes are not boxes—that is, they are boxes, but all hopen at the sides; and the front is cuite hopen also, being made of cast iron, so that you can see the ladees dresses from top to toe. It has this dishadvantage, that people must dress, and cannot go as we do in London, with an old gownd and dirty shoes, and a fine shemysitte and pshawl to ide them. Most of the ladies dress in white, and ornamint their cads with flowers; whilst the gentlemen all wear black cotes, fancy wexcoats, and white pantaloons.

As to the singers, they are more than second-rate, and they make a deal of money. It chanced to be the benefit knight for one of the prima donnas, and when we entered the theater, we see her sitting before a table, on which stood a uge silver platter, big enough to old a suckin pig! Did you ever!—Well, it was covered with silver and gold, and I was cuite hastounded when I saw the fawshionables wying amongst heach other womb shou!d put the most on the dish. I see one (I did think him sich a fool!) who had placed 10 ounces of gold on the plate, throw down 10 more, because as great a donkey as himself had put down 15. These dons are surtainly hasses and donkeys for their panes. And Peter, at the inxtigation of Peabody, was fool enough to deposit one ounce, for which he got what he thought a gracious smile from the hactress, and a precious curtain lecture from me that knight. Didn't he catch it! Doan't think he'll ever be guilty of sich xtravagance again. That

woman, I was told, made £750 that knight—quite a fortune. As for Fanny Hellsler, I am told that she has cleared thousands. Disgusten! ain't it?

We have been hout a good deal, for Peter nos all the great folks. This as enabled me to study the ladies of this place. I always was a grate hobserver—inherited that gift from my grandfather, womb, you know, was a reporter in his day. If I dared, I should have liked to have written to Miss Martinou or Mrs. Trolhope, for they would have turned my hobservations to account. Clarissa has taken down memorandums and mayd sketches, and she intends to publish a pamflet when she goes back to London. Poor thing! she little knows what publishing costs—tho' I do, for Mr. MacGuinness told me all about it. It don't repay one's trouble, Margery.

Well, well, this his all wery fine, but I want to rite about woman, bless er hart!—describe her manners, dress, and abits. Margery, you hare a woman, and a feeling one to, for I have hofsten seen tears treacle down your cheeks ven you heerd of the suftrings of the poor, poor kneedlevomen, who vorks like silkvorms, and dies of starvation. If you ave not ritten volumns, 'tain't no fault of yours—but then you ave spoken them. I no of no living woman more deservin than yourself, to womb I could kommunikate my observations on the Awanese females, for your generosity is has boundless as the stormy hocean and the sergy Pacific.

To begin. Awanese women are like hall hother women, except that they is pail and has black heyes generally, with air as black as the hink I am hinditing with. They is halso smallish in size, caused no doubt by the heat, which is hawful, as I told you. Their ands and feet is liliputian, and they wear nothing else but satin or silk shoes, with souls as thin as wafers. That which will axtonish you the most is, that they make their own shoes; but the soul is made by the cobbler. Funny, ain't it? Clarissa and me don't know what we shall do when our souls are hused up, for we never made sich things in hall our born days. Another thing as will axtonish you his, that they don't wear stays, which I think is the only cause why they are so very agile. Their movements are rather woluptuous; but this is also attributable to the hinscessant eat—tho' they never see the sun unless they are obliged, which seldom appens unless they travail. They take good care, the lasy uzzies, to keep within dors, take their sighestas (a qucer word!) and this haccounets for the whiteness of their skin. They are jist like howls, for they only go hout when the sun is going to bed, and then they are two hindolent to walk. Now do you see why they have sich small feet? If ever I have a daughter, I'll take precious kare she shan't walk, no more than chynese women, whose feet is no biggar than a kambridge sassage doubled hup.

But, can you believe it—will you believe it?—at the party we was at the other knight, they danded like raving monomaniacs. They actirally looked like drowned rats, from the dew a running and streamin down their faces and necs. They be more mad for danning Polecas and

walses in these parts than in London; and it strikes me, that the otter the klimate, the more dansing is in woge. I should ave thought the contrary. So much for travelling! so much for taste!!

What we most admires ere, is the friendly terms on which folk live. Seremony is cuite unknown—it's too ot to be over-purlike. People walk into hother peoples houses as if it was their hown, which does away with hetiquette: and no wonder, for all the doors and winders are wide hopen to hadmit the hair and visitors both equally welcomb. They know nothing of hour seremonius manners—of powdered footmen, knobby walet-de-chambers and butlers. You walk in, and dis-kiver the lady of the ouse a-smokin (the beestly kustom!) she points to a chare—you sit down, talk if you can, hold your tung if you can't, which is xceedingly onpleasant, specially to one as is fond of gossup, like myself. We generally has a friend who hacts as inter-prether. That which I dislike the most, is them negresses a-lolling about: I always diskiver them by the hodor, it's cuite hoverpoucing: of cours I carries a bottle of salts with me.

After all that is said and done, it's pleasant to be upon unseremonius terms. We English are such slaves to kustom—we never think of *paying* wisits xcept to those as gives dinners, suppers, or balls. Unless people ruin themselves by giving parties, folk do not think it worth while to waste their time in wisits. These wisits are hoften grate boars, and one wishes the wisitors at bath.

With respect to marriage, that importantist move in the life of woman, they is very purtikilar ear. It's surprizing how prowd these kreholes is, specially if they as the blue blood, as they calls it, in their wains. I was halways hoppedosed to hintermarriage, because it himpo-verishes the blood, and children—poor hinnocent critturs—inherits the royal hevill. A hedict ought to be legalised to stop them here, because they is all the rage. This accounts for the women being so skinny and squallid and pail. Cousins ought not to marry cousins, no more than uncles ought to marry neeces or their grandmothers. It's like sewing corn in the same field, without allowing the land to rest—ence the himpoverishment. I could go deeper into this subject, only you understand me perfectly.

The nobylity, like the nobylity all hover the face of this earth, are very proud—why, I can't tell, as we all can trace our hancestry, if we only knew were to look for them. Who knows but that our phamily is descended from Julius Seizeher? You know he was in England, and conquered it. But that is neither ere nor there. The people here intermarry merely to kcep the money in the phamily—a thing which is hoften practised with us. Generally sperking, they are very happy; for the women are verrey virtuous, and dote on their husbands.

One thing which struck me with great force, was the weakness of the mothers for their hoffspring. They spiles them completely. I wonder at women, who go so hoften to mass, not being better acquainted with the manners and custom of Solomon. Hav'nt seen a birch rod in a single ouse here. If a child wimpers, his mamma gives him a pine-apple; if he cries, a box of sugar-plums; if he bellows, he is kissed

and made a fool of. Alas! Margery, hand-mothers are ixtonish'd that children plague them to death. How different did my poor dear mother act towards me! Didn't I get it!!

Then they dress their children like little men and women. I've seen boys 10 and 12 years old, with tale coats, gents hats, and boots, so prim and stiff, it was cuite amusing—cuite—to see them a-given of themselves such hairs.

Talking of xtravagance, nothing beats that of the kreoles. Peter hused to xpostulate with me for not wearing a ball-dress more than a dozen times; but these Awanese women beats me all to tatters. Only think of their only wearing a dress once! Kan you spell the word?—yea, only ONCE! They must cost their husbands fortunes. But the xtravagantist part of all is, that they gives their splendid dresses to their dirty slaves when they come ome from the ball. Eity-tighty! my made may wate a long time before I am guilty of such xtravagance.

I think, Margery, that I have given you sum idea as to the fileosology of woman in these parts, and I wind hup by saying that they is most affectionate mothers. I could say much more on this inixaustible subject—lovely woman, but shall reserve my remarks till we meet, as it wond do to spin too long a yarn, as Mr. Peabody says.

I cuite forgot the moast himportant knews. Peter and me ad a rare squall about that fellow, the poet MacGuinness. It caused me to give him a severe curtain lecture—i mean Peter, of course, as he patronizes the versificater, who sticks to him like a shadow; tho' it is difficult to see ones shadow cre in the middle of the day, when the son is overhead. Well, MacGuinness is in love with Clarissa! Did you ever!—Yes—it don't surprise me, as everybody as sees herf loves her. The way i discovered his hidden pawasion was this:—He dedicated some poetry to some one, & i am cuite sure it is ment for Clarissa. I hav'nt got a copy of the lines; but such a memory I've got, that nothing escapes it when facts be once impressed upon my brain. Dr. Numbskull, when he xamined my bumps at Crosby All, said, before all the congregation, that he never seed such organs for recollectin of things in is life; once the fasillyty of remembrance. i give you the heligy verb-athim, has some gents calls it, & you will find my remarks at foot dewly numbered for your headification. It runs as follows:—

“TO MY BOW HIGHDEALLE.”

Herr Sacson aweborn air, of goldhen ewe,
Falls in lucksuriat kurls *a la* korcscrew,
Witch kiss herr roasy cheeks that speak content,
Here robed in modesty and centiment.
Hon that soft surface just beneath the hi,
Horrora plays, as in the northern ski;
And hore herr heaven brows is to be seen
A cheerful fored which would grace a queen—
Terce, wite and delicate, not igh nor lo,
A fored such as few kould bost or show;
2 lids from witch dame Natur, with a dash
Of err kean anū, ad drawn the long black lash,

½ valed blew hies, so lovin and so glad,
 Has seemed has hif they never kould look sad;
 "Herr nose directed strate" (as Chauser said),
 It well became herr elegant-form'd head;
 Grased by such 'hears! hoose unadorned tips
 Fond kisses beg, of fond hendearin lips.
 Herr mouth his perfect, of the deepest read—
 None more than i do pale hand thin lips dread!
 Lips are the sete of frankness and of love;
 They mark the serpent, or proclaim the dove.
 My charmer's hupper lip his read and thin;
 But then the 1 as pouts above herr chin
 I appears as if some henvious umming be
 Ad kiss'd, then stung it from shear jealousy—
 i kould ave done the same in heckstasy!!
 Hand werc they parted for a leetle wile,
 Around them hovver'd such a lovely smile,
 It play'd the devil—for, like kupits dart,
 It sank deep, deep hinto my throbbing art.
 Then, glitt'ring like a havalaunch of snow,
 Herr neck descended to herr harms below:
 Deep-bosom'd—but, alas! her sabell vest
 Konscals those charms natur so well express'd.
 Herr ands are long, so tapering and white;
 Herr waste is slender, but not laced 2 tight;
 Herr shoulders broad, yet broader still herr hipps;
 On tiny feet most gracefully she tripps.
 Stately, yet gentle has the turtle dove,
 My charmer his a perfect queen of love!

Such, Margery, his the dedication. Womb else can it be intended for, but for Clarissa? You see the himpudence of the feller. His language is has loose as his moralls, hand the hole breathes lubricity. That i have given you the xact tenor of the dedication, i am cuite certain; for i have been particular, even as to the brackets, as them Hitalian himage venders calls 'em—see mark No. 1.

As we go to the country soon, i hope we shall part company with that dreamin poet, who is not $\frac{1}{2}$ as hamusin as that dear Mr. Peabody, tho' he boares us konstantly about a place called Texass, and another barren place named after some Irishman, and sounds something like O'Regon. I have advised Peter to put an O before is name; but he says there is an O'Smith in London already—I who acts the brigand, in the strand. i shall go and see him when i come back to blessed London, witch i hope will soon be the case, as I long to inale the smell of smoke, because i think it purifies the hair and kills wenomous hinsects as habounds ere.

By the buy, i here railways are doing oneders, and that the civic hawthorities are making fortunes. Pity as Peter is not in London. I supposes most of the Aldermen is on the Provisionalle Kommittees.

I don't know if I shall rite to you again—it's such a boar, with the ot son in daytime, and the musketers at night. If i do, it shall be on a pertikilarly hinteresting subject.

Your loving cousin,

POLLY SMITH.

P.S. I admire the respect paid to old people ere wery much. Old

women go about *au naturel* with their grey air, and don't wear wigs, false air, nor caps, as in England. Old age here is certainly honorable, and no one thinks grey airs abominable. There's no accountin for taste. I could rite more, bit i won't.

P.P.S. Don't forget to have the fire irns rubbed with sand paper once a week. I ate rust. Hemery paper is the best; it don't scratch.
Ajew once more.

AUSTRALIAN SKETCHES.

BY THOS. M'COMBIE, ESQ.

No. V.—THE SCENERY AND SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES.

AUSTRALIA, land of hope!—how many a longing eye is turned towards thy sunbright shores! On the dusky heath-clad hills of Scotland, the hardy mountaineer in his aerial dwelling ponders deeply on thy magical rise and strange history. Amidst the woods, dales, and daisy fields of merry England, the happy cottager broods and dreams of the Australian shores, brighter even than his own happy land. The light and jovial-hearted native of the Green Isle, as he goeth forth to the labours of the day carolling some ditty of the olden time, longs eagerly to reach the land of the East—the clime of the sun. It is a land “beautiful exceedingly;” the most remote parts of the globe echo its praises, and waft blessings towards the land of promise—the future home of millions of the human race. Every newspaper and periodical in England, as well as America, and the other parts of the civilised world, teems with accounts of its unparalleled rise and present prosperity. Philosopher, patriot, and philanthropist, alike regard the rapid development of the Australian Continent with no common or every-day anxiety, but as one of the grand events which will mark this period in the history of the world. But a few years since it was altogether unknown. How many a nook of quiet, secluded beauty, lovelier far than the most elaborate finishing of man's hands, yet lies in this strange land “wasting its sweetness on the desert air!” How many an eye-bright landscape, with its plains of umbrageous foliage and perpetual verdure, where the footstep of the mariner has never trod; its nitid, pebbly brooks, with their foaming, sparkling cascades; its noble lakes, upon which the sun coquets with his parting rays ere he sinks at curfew time; its myrtle groves, with their fruits, and flowers, and trees, variegated and bespangled with all the beauty which the simplicity of nature alone can exhibit, and canopied by fantastic wreaths of flowery foliage formed from the sweeping mimosa—loveliest of plants—or the green luxuriant casuarina, with its weeping, wiry, wavy, shivering foliage, and many other trees, enlivened by thousands of warblers nestling amongst their rustling leaves, of as bright plumage as the far-famed bird of paradise,—lies unscen and unknown.

"Australia!" exclaims the English reader; "and what can be said of Australia? Time is not chronicled there, as in older countries: the hours, and days, and years, have not been marked by events connected with the history of the world, and of the human race. That it exists now is certain, but for how long we know not: the past is one dark obscurity—a chaos; time has been buried in the grave of forgetfulness ere yet recorded."

With the exception of a few patches here and there on the different coasts and plains, nothing is known of the fifth part of the globe. The footstep of civilised man has not yet penetrated into the interior of Australia. How very little, comparatively, is known of this vast continent! What a grand secret is here concealed from the eye of man! Of both the burning sandy deserts of Africa, and the arid, scorching, boundless plains of Asia, a visionary conceit has entered imperceptibly into the mind; we have a mental sketch of the form and proportion of these strange and almost illimitable lands, although it would, perhaps, be impossible to convey an outline of our conception to another. The noble-minded and enterprising sons of Britain have explored far into these boundless regions: love of knowledge, or an eager desire for fame, has excited many to surmount danger and privation, thus collecting stores of information to lay before the world;—many of those explorers have found an early grave, but their requiem will be chaunted by thousands, and their names will long be honoured. What benefits have they bestowed upon the human race!—lighting the taper of knowledge amid the mists of obscurity and ignorance—gladdening the hearts of the men of science—opening up new channels for the commerce of their native land—spreading the light of religion and civilisation through vast territories where unmitigated barbarism had formerly held sway—and all at the cost of their own lives! These are the true heroes and patriots; the courage of him who will undertake to explore a new and pagan country—a task which will entail upon him years of physical privation, hunger and thirst, disease, and most likely death—is as far above the courage of the warrior as the heavens are superior to the dull earth. The courage of the warrior is often the transient effervescence of the moment, the natural excitement of his soul-stirring profession: he rides forth to combat surrounded by friends and comrades; his mind is strained to the utmost pitch of excitement by the gorgeous spectacle of the pomp of battle, the ringing of steel and the clang of armed squadrons, the flapping of banners and the glitter of arms, the martial bearing of the combatants, and the maddening strain of the martial music. But the poor explorer has none of all these flitting aids to animate him; he has to endure long days of the most laborious toil, beneath a sun so scorching as to desiccate every particle of herbage, and make life to a human being almost too oppressive to be borne, followed by weary and solitary nights; at times famishing for lack of sustenance or dying from thirst, struggling against circumstances the most adverse and disheartening, in constant danger from beasts of prey or lawless men. Amidst all these, and numberless other difficulties and dangers, the poor explorer has to rely upon the self-sustaining powers of his own mind.

What exquisite mental anguish and severe bodily suffering may not these poor wayfarers have experienced! what lassitude of spirit and sad longings! Nothing could have enabled them to bear up against such suffering and dreariness of heart but some powerful motive for action; such a motive they have had in their desire to benefit the human race. Well, then, may the young and feeling-hearted reader heave a sigh when he reads of the untimely fate of many a brave explorer, and reflects upon the accumulation of calamities under which he may have sunk. But, although by the exertions of these brave travellers we have something like a faint idea of the grand internal wastes of Africa and Asia, the interior of Australia is one complete blank: science is here fairly baffled—for nothing like a correct idea can be formed of these regions, or the natural features they present.

Some have supposed the interior of the Australian Continent to be one vast range of sandy plains, with no mark of vegetation upon their surface, and where neither man nor beast could exist. These unfruitful regions are supposed to be almost without limit, and ten times more monotonous and pestiferous than the deserts of Africa, or the steppes of Asia: nay more, it is supposed to be impossible for living thing to traverse these boundless wastes. Many, again, conjecture that there exists in the interior of Australia a vast inland sea, where the future navies of the New World will float, and which, by aid of ships and steamboats, will connect together the most distant parts of the country. Those who hold this opinion say, that when this ocean is discovered the golden age of Australian prosperity will in reality commence; that the agricultural and pastoral interests of the country will flourish, and its commerce be fostered and increased. Some, again, are of opinion that in the interior of the country there exist ranges of lofty, rugged, impenetrable mountains, across which the foot of man will never be able to pass. Amongst these chains there are supposed to exist volcanoes grander than any yet known, the craters emitting a continued body of fire and smoke. The whole country is supposed to be under the agency of vast subterranean fires, which at times burst out with terrific explosions, spreading burning lava for many miles, and increasing the waste desolation of the scene. Those who chiefly hold the latter opinion are the ignorant Irish, of whom there are a great many in the Colony: they look upon these burning mountains with abject and supernatural fear—as something almost as frightful as the countries of the Genii and Magi, described in the “Arabian Nights’ Entertainments.” Sometimes, when the lightning flashes, and the thunder peals far away with that lazy supineness peculiar to this part of the world, the ignorant set down these sublimities of the natural world as some eruption or earthquake among these distant mountains; they fear that some grand revolution of nature may one day swallow up the whole land.

Many have attempted to penetrate towards the interior, but all have been alike unsuccessful. Whether or not it will ever be accomplished, and the explorers and historians of Australia be enabled to lay a graphical delineation of the country before the world, it would at present

be impossible to guess. The skill and perseverance of man will overcome much, and subdue the elements to obey his will ; and great as the difficulties which must be overcome before this grand end can be arrived at really are, the world may yet entertain good hopes of this grand event being one day accomplished. When, however, the reader reflects for one moment upon the nature of these difficulties and dangers, he will begin to fear that the enigma has no chance of being solved in our lifetime. And before proceeding further, it may be as well to glance for a moment at the nature of the difficulties and dangers.

The explorer will have to wander over many hundred miles of desert, uninhabited by life or living thing, with the sole exception of nests of venomous reptiles. He will likewise have to scramble over chains of mountains, so steep and rugged as to be impassable for horses, and all but an effectual boundary to the limits of knowledge, and a stop to the hardy pioneer. He would have, moreover, to scramble for months amongst scrub, so dense, that many weeks must elapse before even a hundred miles of country could be traversed, and where no regular course could be pursued ; added to which, the danger of famishing or dying from thirst, or the yet greater danger of getting perplexed, losing the way, and perishing in the wilderness. It is clear that difficulties which could have disheartened so many brave and distinguished travellers and explorers, and obliged all of them to retrace their way to the dwellings of civilised men, are of no slight or common kind. About two years since, a body of men, comprising some members of high standing in science, had it in contemplation to make one grand effort towards the accomplishment of this great undertaking. The mode of operation was planned thus :—Two parties of volunteers, each containing only hardy pioneers, inured to an Australian climate, and practised in all that appertains to Bush life and navigating the wilderness, were to start on a given day, one from Adelaide and the other from Port Essington. A particular latitude and longitude were fixed upon as a place of rendezvous, and for this spot each was to steer a straight course by aid of the compass. It is possible, if this undertaking had been proceeded with, and the details managed prudently and skilfully, that it might have been successful ; but the very magnitude of the undertaking appears ultimately to have dismayed even its hardy projectors, and, painful to reflect upon, it was relinquished. If the undertaking, without succeeding in accomplishing the end aimed at, would have deprived the country of the services of some of her most distinguished sons, by adoption, if not by birth, then it was wisely abandoned ; yet it was a disappointment the most mortifying to all who love Australia, and who joy in her prosperity.

Australia is said to have been first discovered by Don Pedro Fernando de Quiros, a Spanish navigator. It is not, however, clearly proved that he was the first discoverer, as the Dutch may claim the honour of the discovery with some appearance of truth ; for their navigators are said to have visited New Holland as early as 1605, while the date of the Spaniard's discovery is put down as 1609. The remoteness of the new country, and the unwillingness of the common people to

migrate thither in consequence, accounts for this vast continent having been so long neglected. Captain Cook was the first who obtained any useful information regarding it, and who discovered it to be unconnected with the groups of islands in the South Sea, known collectively by the name of Polynesia.

Australia is situated in the Pacific Ocean ; the Indian Ocean washes its shores. It measures two thousand miles from north to south, and about three thousand miles from east to west. Its circumference may be estimated at upwards of eight thousand miles, and of this vast space about one-tenth part has been explored. The discovery of the vast peninsula of Hindostan, the seat of the British Presidencies in India, and perhaps the greatest emporium for commerce in the world at the present day, led to the discovery not only of America, but likewise of Australia and Polynesia. How limited must have been the ideas of even the intellectual great of ancient times ! The philosophers, poets, and scholars of Rome and Athens ; the invincible Roman generals ; the finished, elegant Cicero, with his graceful language and inimitable style ; the elegant Demosthenes, with his passionate fervour, his command of language, and the yet more wonderful command which he exercised over the feelings and passions of his fellows,—dreamt not of the mighty worlds which were concealed from their view, or their national pride would have been considered lessened. The discovery of India by Vasco de Gama changed the world, and by bringing to light what was formerly obscure, enlarged the minds of men. How little do we at times know of the momentous events which a very trifling incident, often presenting an inauspicious aspect at the time, may give rise to ! and how little could the gallant and distinguished De Gama be aware, when encouraging his men to perseverance, and combating with the angry elements off “the Cape of Good Hope,” of the unprecedented events which were to follow his brave action—the discovery, not only of India, that strange land over which a fairy spell of enchantment has been woven, until it has come to be looked upon, especially by the uneducated, as a golden land of sumptuous and voluptuous splendour, a land of jewels and ingots,—but likewise, to say nothing of America, the discovery of which was the most important event on record, of Australia, which a century hence will be looked upon as an event little, if at all, less important. The opening up of India for British enterprise and commerce was a grand era in the history of Britain, and mainly contributed to the great accumulation of capital in that country of late years. Thousands of Englishmen have gone over to India needy, penniless adventurers, and have astonished the world by returning in a few years loaded with gold and almost unable to count their thousands. This is no exaggeration, but how their great wealth was acquired was unknown to every one but themselves. We know now how it was in many instances amassed—by rapacity, bloodshed, and deeds of evil ; by violation of all the laws of honour or probity ; by pillaging and ruining the widow, the fatherless, and the unprotected ; by the loss of honour and good name ; by laying waste whole districts of rich and prosperous country ; by crimes of the darkest dye,

which shrink from the light of day ; and by devastating the richest country in the world, and draining it of its last rupee. A century back gold was as plenty in India as "coals at Newcastle ;" now the sight of a rupee is as rare as the sight of a Bank of England note in Shepton Mallet, or any other of the raffest towns in England. There are, we willingly confess, glorious exceptions ; many gentlemen, especially amongst those engaged in mercantile pursuits, have acquired an honourable independence by their own exertions. It is cheering to be able to record this, but, alas ! it is only the exception.

India is now in the wane—it has reached "the sere and yellow leaf," while Australia is an infant giant, about to burst from leading-strings and astonish the world by its vigorous strength. The rise of Australia to the important place it must occupy in the scale of nations will be an event of far more importance to mankind than the trade of India, which has only benefited, directly, at least, a few individuals. The fortunes which will be accumulated in Australia will not be wrenched from the friendless and fatherless, but acquired by patient industry ; they will not be acquired by the grasping and avaricious, but by the honest laborious cultivator, who tills that he may reap ; or by the careful grazier, who watches over the flocks and herds, that repay his care with liberal interest ; or the careful, thrifty trader, who takes care to increase his store, but, at the same time, acts honourably in all his transactions, and values his good name more than riches.

Every country has many features peculiar to itself, not only of natural scenery, but it likewise contains within its limits an entire world of animate and inanimate creation. The discoveries of India, America, and Australia, and the South Sea Archipelago, alike introduced the old northern nations to a new world. They opened up to the eager adventurers of the old continents, vast stores of wealth and knowledge. With all that appertains to the history of the two former, the English reader of these days is thoroughly acquainted. Of the latter—which, being the latest discovery, as well as from being the antipodes of the Old World, has been named the "New World"—very little is known. Of course, in a brief article like the present, it would be impossible to enter into minute details of the natural history of the country, its intrinsic capabilities, or peculiarities of natural scenery. As the last may be deemed the most interesting subject of dissertation to the English reader, we shall here glance for a moment towards it.

So far as the country has been explored, it has been found to consist of hills and plains in irregular proportion. Vast chains of steep, rugged, impassable mountains, alternate with a continued succession of long, thinly-timbered, undulating flats, or elongated meadows, similar in appearance to the plains of North America, which have been styled prairies, from the French word *prairie*, a meadow. The natural aspect of some of these Australian plains, especially during the autumn, winter, and spring months, is singularly beautiful—such a scene as Claude Lorraine would love to copy. The grass is soft as velvet, green and refrigerant, mitigating the heat of the sun, which shines overhead with refulgent splendour ; the plains are spangled by clumps of

odorous, variegated trees, forming, in many places, natural harbours of almost superlative beauty, and which exceed even the notions we have formed of Oriental splendour,—yet, sad to say, in many instances badly watered: in fact, the settlers have often to depend upon aqueducts or ponds for preserving the water which falls from the heavens.* Want of water is the great and only natural disadvantage under which Australia will have to combat; and this may be, in a great measure, if not altogether, remedied by Artesian boring; and, even at present, although insiccation at times goes to such a length in seasons of great drought as to parch and wither all kinds of vegetation, yet there are comparatively few parts of the country where the land cannot be made fit for the rearing and grazing of sheep. It however presents an effectual barrier to the growth of corn upon an extensive scale, unless a system of artificial irrigation be adopted, which many who have studied the subject consider neither impossible nor very difficult. But it is not always the case that these lovely plains are unwatered. In many instances the scene is yet farther beautified by a creek, winding along in serpentine folds, with its steep shelving banks, forming natural terraces and grottoes. The water flows here smooth and broad, and the banks retreat to a considerable distance, where they retract, and the waters are hidden beneath a covering formed by the trees on their margin, which hang luxuriantly. Some miles farther on, and the country becomes more thickly wooded, the trees now forming, often, long sylvan arcades and cloistered colonnades, affording shady retreats from the mid-day sun. The country will at times change—the beautiful and gay scene depicted above will alter to the most tame and uninteresting scenery that can be imagined. No country presents such an incongruous mixture of good and bad scenery as Australia; and, in whole districts, nothing meets the sight but old, stunted, weather-beaten gum-trees, thick dwarf-scrub, with here and there vast circular and oval plains, where the vegetation is dry and withered. Here the scene has no redeeming features—nothing to beautify or enliven it; the eye rests painfully upon a prospect barren, monotonous, and unlovely.

Some parts of the country are very hilly. These lofty ranges of mountains sometimes stretch across many hundred miles of the land, separating whole districts of country from one another by almost impassable barriers. These mountain runges are at times of great height, with rocky, precipitous sides; in many places jagged and shelvy, with ravines down which the winter torrents pour headlong with fearful impetuosity, presenting a singular scene, at once beautiful and sublime. Other parts of these ranges are covered by one thick, compact coating of scrub, shutting up all communication, and rendering the passage across either altogether impossible, or a work of such danger and diffi-

* The reader must not suppose that want of water is a general complaint. There are whole districts well watered. But one accustomed to the superfluity of that grand necessary at home, would regard the scantiness of it, and the distance from which it has at times to be carried, as something like a calamity.

culty as to deter men from making the essay. The scene will frequently assume a milder and more genial aspect; the offensive brushwood will disappear, and be succeeded by defiles furrowing the sides of the mountains, with a small creek winding along the bottom, the sides of which are covered with stringy bark and pine. Immense herds of cattle collect among these fastnesses, from the stray cattle and runaway herds of the surrounding settlers, where the country is occupied. After a time they become untameable, and dangerous to approach—belonging to and owned by no man; nor is it possible for any person to recover herds, if once they take refuge in these ranges. What exquisite and pure delight a mind tenderly alive to poetic feeling, and susceptible of the grandest emotions derived from the sublime and beautiful, might derive from a sojourn among these mountain recesses during a thunderstorm! A thunderstorm is very often presaged by an intense and suffocating closeness in the atmosphere. The lightning then begins to dart along, now with a faint, tremulous, scarce perceptible, wiry streak, which vanishes ere perceived; then with a flash so vivid, as to light up the whole of the horizon with a roseate glow—suddenly,—yet so grand and vivid, as to make the beholder start involuntarily, and give the reverence of the soul to what is not of the material,—like the hectic blush of pleasure which crosses the pale, wan face of a poet, when, half absent and dreaming, he is startled into life by the brilliancy of some thought or image which has found its way to the mind. Then follows the peal, so high as to all but rend the earth. First comes a cracking noise, like the discharge of a thousand pieces of artillery, which would be but a puny, feeble attempt to imitate it; then a long, loud roar, reverberating from mountain to mountain, and from valley to valley, wandering away until the sound becomes of a drowsy, lingering, lulling character, muffled by the distance. Awe mingles with pleasure as we catch our breath and listen. Does not the voice of the Almighty speak in his thunders? Then follows the smooth, pattering rain, as it “comes down like music:” it begins to fall heavier, and, in a short space of time, the dry ravines are filled; thousands of little foaming streams come clamouring along, tributary to the larger stream; and, in a short time, countless rivers start into existence, as by the wand of a magician.

It is a wonderful thing thus to wander in the primeval forests of Australia, the strangest, perhaps, of strange lands, and attempt to penetrate the mist which hangs over its former history, or withdraw the veil from the yet more impalpable mist of the future. For what strange and peculiar purpose of Providence was this vast continent created? and have all these hills and valleys continued thus desolate since the creation? Is Australia, indeed, coeval with the Old World? and has it lain thus waste and solitary, while the Old World teemed with its millions of living thinking beings? Or, again, is there any truth in the theories advanced by the naturalist and the philosopher, that Australia is a more recent formation, and that where this land now lies, with its myriads of living things, and its animal and vegetable worlds, but a few centuries back a waste of waters rolled? Were it possible to

bring the mind to give full credence to these theories, well would Australia deserve the name of the New World.

But were this to be believed, what object could Providence have had in its creation? (we cannot for a moment enter into a belief of the doctrines of the materialists.) Was it because the Old World was likely to be surcharged with inhabitants, and a new world was here laid out ready for countless thousands of human beings, who would elsewhere have been unable to earn food and raiment necessary for a subsistence? Or was it created by a natural law constantly going forward in the material world, and created from the natural operation of the elements, and which is changing the whole face of the material world? Is Australia, being a more recent formation, likely to outlast the older world, or some parts of the older world? It would strike the future Australian with a strange horrible feeling of curiosity and dread, did he expect one day to hear that England was to be swallowed up by an earthquake, and the waves of the German Ocean roll on over proud and mighty cities, lordly feudal seats of ancient greatness, and dwellings furnished with the costly magnificence of modern times, until its waters mingled with the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, so that the homeward-bound mariner would search in vain for his port of destination. Nay, more; were these theories true, vast continents may now be forming, or will at some future period form, in the Pacific, Atlantic, or Indian Ocean, which will in their turn be colonised by adventurers from Australia, India, or America. Australia may be then an old world, filled with works of art, enlightened by philosophy and science, and rich with wealth culled from every clime, and poured into her from the ends of the earth. Where now solitude holds sway, will then be crowded with towered cities, proud castles, and sweet hamlets. Not a foot of the mighty land which has hitherto been untrod by the footsteps of man, but will in these days have its legend and its story, and make many a proud boast of glory departed.

Another strange speculation here enters the mind. Will knowledge be always progressive, and will the future inhabitants of the New World be as far superior to us in science as we are to the philosophers of Greece and Rome? Will they look upon their primogenial brethren of the Old World as ignorant? Or, again, will science retrograde, and mental culture be neglected, and they fall away from the high civilisation of their progenitors? The latter might flatter our vanity, but as sincere lovers of mankind, as well as of all that is grand or noble in the nature of man, we would hope that the former may be the case.

How long will the Empire of Britain, with her mighty Dependencies in every quarter of the globe, a dominion on which the sun never sets, hold together? or, what is the same thing, how long will Australia continue to be a Dependency of England, and what may be its strange history when the yoke of the mother-country is cast off? Of what feuds and battles may not these solitary plains and lonely forest groves one day be the arena! what marching and counter-marching of armies—what obstinate struggling for supremacy, for religious belief, for liberty! The clang of the war-trumpet and the din of battle may resound

throughout these silent woods ; the tramp of the eager war-horse plough up these verdant fields ; the fiery hissing cannon-ball lay waste these drooping wiry-leaved casuarinas, and gigantic white gums, with their huge gnarled branches spread here and there in strange grotesque groups. The groans of the wounded and dying may break upon the midnight stillness of the eternal forest. And there spreads the landscape under the influence of a solitude as complete as if coetaneous with the creation.

The more reflection the mind gives to this subject, the more strange it appears. We have a continent as large as the whole of the known world of the ancients, which, after lying many thousands of years a luxurious wilderness, uninhabited, or inhabited only by a few wandering tribes of Indians, is now about to start into life and vigour ; —after thus lying waste, an untrodden wilderness—a blank—a nothing, is to become the source of support for a great and mighty nation—a nation which will unquestionably rule the Eastern Hemisphere and be the Britain of the East ; to have, instead of Nature in her most commanding proportions, countless millions of living, thinking beings, with their individual passions and feelings—the intense and withering mental anguish of some, and the gay buoyancy of heart of others. If it were possible for a man to have a glance into futurity, what a strange sight would be presented ! Suppose he were to plant himself in the midst of that plain, now all desolate, and close his eyes for a moment, and could on reopening them have a single glance of the same spot several centuries hence. Before him spreads the same ground, but, oh, how different !—in place of the former solitude, the whole of the country now, as far as the eye can reach, teems with life and civilisation ; proud cities rear their thousand domes to the sky, their golden spires glittering in the summer sunshine ; the streets and highways are crowded with the votaries of fashion, the dissipated and the idle ; the marts of business and the places of traffic present the same keen, eager, speculative class, as are to be seen upon the Royal Exchange at the present day. It is the same, for human nature will always continue the same, there as in our own day : one class of men are anxiously making it the sole aim of their lives to accumulate a fortune, while another class again are as eagerly employed in spending one ; railroads branch off in every direction ; the clang of a thousand engines, and the incessant hum of multitudes pursuing their various avocations, and the sounds of manufactories, of many different kinds, break upon the ear. While a man of fashion of those days drives past in some vehicle, which the beholder does not recognise, he whips by so close as almost to put his person in danger of being ridden down ; he starts, the spell is broken, the whole creation has vanished—"not a wreck remains." He is again in the midst of eternal silence ; nothing about him wears any resemblance to the vision he had created, but the sky above him ; it however has known no change, and there it rests as pure as azure, and as gloriously beautiful as ever.

We must not pursue these speculations too far, or the reader may become weary of what he may think tends to serve no useful purpose.

Before entering upon a practical consideration of Australia, it may not be out of place to mention the advantages the emigrant will have, to induce him to adopt it as his future home. Except in rare instances, and under very peculiar circumstances, the emigrant will have no gratification from a prolonged stay in an Australian town. Few would make choice of a town life. Most of them swarm with keen, selfish, and designing men; with needy adventurers, with many who have been ejected from society at home for their misdeeds. A residence in such a place tends to harden the heart, and curdle the milk of human kindness. After being repeatedly deceived, men become sharp; nay, in many instances, it so happens that those who before were the soul of honour, gradually begin to fall in with the system which is every day practised around them. The country, however, holds forth many advantages for those who love a rural life, and a quiet and secluded nook to live far from the cares and bustle of the world. The life of the Australian settler can be made one of the happiest under the sun: he has a cloudless sky, a bright sun, and his cheek is fanned by breezes as pure and sweet-scented as those so famed of Araby; he may set himself down by the banks of some meandering stream, overhung by the green stately yarra and golden-coloured mimosa. His sweet little snug cot shall be upon the rise of the bank of the river; before it, and sloping down to the trees which range the river, shall be a garden with many a parterre of flowers, and vines trained into quaint devices and sweet-scented herbs. The cot shall be covered with woodbine. Might not a man be happy in such a "paradise of flowers," free from the cares of the world?

"A lovely dwelling which shall be our own,
Where we shall sit and dream of time and change
As the world ebbs and flows, and be
Ourselves unchanged."

The extraordinary luxuriance of the foliage and herbage in the neighbourhood of rivers is perfectly wonderful, as if Nature had here lavished all the blessings she could bestow, as an amend for whole districts of parched and withered country. Here fruitfulness is not limited; the fruits of the earth spring forth almost spontaneously, and with a luxuriance altogether unknown in northern latitudes: the various members of the vegetable world sprout forth in a night, and shoot up with such rapidity that man almost fancies he beholds them grow with the naked eye. The trees are nourished by the genial soil; the young sapling soon changes into the towering tree, refreshing man by its verdant shade. How many a care-worn, wretched, withered being, does the eye meet wandering spectre-like about in our marts of business at home, whose ghastly countenance, and fixed, lead-coloured, unmeaning eye, tell of despair! How many at home are maddened by the thoughts of impending ruin, which they have it not in their power to ward off!—all their hopes are blasted; their most strenuous exertions are nought; dark, dismal, wintry ruin hangs over their heads tenfold worse in appearance than reality,—the cold world—the parish—the bread of beggary! But what prevents such men withdrawing themselves and their

families from a scene which promises no better fate, while it is yet time? Why not transport themselves to a newer and happier land, where there is no parish, no bread of beggary, and where all are equal? Let them not, however, deceive themselves, nor say that this article deceived them; they need not emigrate for the purpose of making a fortune: they may with a small capital, frugality, and prudent management, in Australia live in peace and plenty, and forget the weariness of spirit and sickness of heart which formerly oppressed them, and they have then chance of making money. They may wander from sunrise to sunset in the lovely and ever-verdant woods happy and light-hearted; it is a life which becomes agreeable after a little time, like a second Robin Hood roaming the sylvan dales of Sherwood, or a gipsy king who glories in his natural freedom. Independent of society, untrammelled by the fictitious rules of conduct denominated politeness—unwatched by the lynx eye of a jealous and malicious public, a man may live and die in peace, nor know care or woe.

Australia will yet be a powerful and independent country, the future mistress—the England, in fact, or the rival of England, in the East. There will spring up here a new empire, which will change the commerce of the world, and force it into new channels. Australia produces wool, and New Zealand flax; and as coal is found in great abundance over the whole face of the Australian Continent, there will soon be manufacturers for converting the grand staples of the two Colonies into woollen cloths and coarse linens. The advantages Australia possesses as the seat of manufactures are evident. Notwithstanding the scarcity of labour now, from the cheapness of provision, the price of labour must fall. In the year 1842, the average price of beef in the Australian cities ranged from 2½d. to 4d. a pound; mutton, 2d. to 3d. (always making allowance, of course, for the usual advance towards shearing-time, which, however, is followed by a great decline after the fleece is taken off): the price of flour has ranged from 14s. to 24s. per 100 lbs. Australia being in almost close proximity to British India, China, and the Spice Islands, where a great demand exists for linens, and a more moderate demand for woollens, the Australian manufacturer, having neither freight to or from England, nor any charge whatsoever, could in a very few years silence all competition. Nothing, perhaps, could be a better delineation of the peculiar characteristics of the countries of England and India, and their several inhabitants, than the plain fact that raw produce is transported from India to England, and re-imported in a manufactured state; and what an extraordinary advantage will the Australian manufacturer have, if only for situation! but all the necessaries of life must be cheap in Australia upon an average of years. Emigration will send out labour, if capitalists once emigrate. There is now a great population in the Colonies known collectively as Australia, and it will increase twice as fast as in England, as the Australians are precocious both in their mental and physical powers, and from this cause marry at a very early age, and seldom die before forty. Whether they will be long or short lived cannot at the present moment be clearly ascertained; but if a

guess might be hazarded, I should think from forty-five to fifty would be the extent of the lifetime of an Australian. Old men of seventy or eighty will perhaps scarcely ever be seen. Death at the age of puberty is a rare circumstance with such as are inured to the climate. Strangers often fall victims to dysentery, Australians never. It is not either possible to hazard an opinion as to the mental capacities of the Anglo-Australians. Whether they will degenerate in this respect from their progenitors of the North, or excel them, is uncertain. This, however, is positive, that even now there are men of no mean abilities in the professions who are sons of Australia.*

The world must therefore look upon Australia as the nucleus of a great and mighty nation; and when capital has been supplied for the mercantile and manufacturing branches of business, and confidence once more completely established, a time of prosperity will dawn such as has not been witnessed even in the palmy days of land-jobbing and convict labour. This prosperity will be permanent, that was fictitious. The first great movement towards this consummation has at the present moment appeared. The banks have, very properly, taken the wool trade from the small speculative houses, who, in attempting to grapple with it, have ruined themselves and the Colony at the same time. The banks are now advancing to within a little of the full value of wool; this will be the immediate cause of a considerable circulation of money; one or two rich houses will establish branches, and import East India produce at a fair remunerating profit; the speculators and over-traders will shut up shop; until they do so, however, confidence will not be restored. These houses have injured the credit of the Colony; their tottering condition tends to hurt the good name of the Colonists. Hitherto people without means have wished to start at once into great trades, and to be rich and powerful. They did not take a shop and ticket up their wares for sale; such a course would have been a degradation. They start as land-dealers and merchants, and float away for a certain time upon a paper credit; after their time is up, they tumble down. The expectations of such people were perfectly absurd, and founded on the wildest chimeras that ever entered the brain of madmen. How, in the name of common sense, could land go on advancing, not gradually and steadily increasing in value, but increasing at such a railroad pace as to double or treble itself in a few months? That it did go on increasing at such a pace for a long time, was not a bit more wonderful than the fictitious value to which any article may be raised by speculation. But when land-jobbers purchased a certain portion of land *on credit*, and the day after entered it in their private calculations as worth three times the sum to be paid for it at three, six, or twelve months, as the case might be, and spent this sum or a part of it in the mean time, they were depending on a mere chimera, and founding expectations upon premises as fallacious as if they had built castles in the air, or

* Mr. Wentworth, the Sydney barrister, and Henry Field Gurney, Esq., Crown Solicitor, Port Phillip.

expected to make a fortune in the moon. Then came the reaction: first, a lamentable scarcity of money appeared, accompanied by a dullness in every branch of business; this was but a presage of the storm that was brewing. The land speculators would not be convinced; they stuck to their wild hopes with the frantic grasp of a drowning man. "Tis but a temporary dullness, and will pass over, and land advance immediately;" this was their foolish saying, but unfortunately it did not run up as they fondly anticipated; for, to their extreme mortification, the reverse was the case, and it kept advancing the wrong way; so that at the end of six or twelve months, instead of being worth so many thousand pounds, they found themselves insolvents.

The progress of Australia during the last few years has been not merely wonderful, but magical. In defiance of the thousand disadvantages under which the Colony has hitherto laboured,—the want of either capital or labour—the distance from the European markets—the want, hitherto, of proper articles of produce for export—the presence of thousands of needy adventurers living upon the honest Colonists;—yes! notwithstanding every disadvantage and infelicity, the advance of Australia has but to be once known, to become the wonder of the world. Let us glance for a moment towards the Settlement of Port Phillip, as an instance of Australian improvement. It is now about six years since the settlers came over from Van Diemen's Land with sheep. It is four years from the first land-sale in the Township of Melbourne, and eighteen months since the opening of the Law Courts. Melbourne, the chief town of the territory, has already a population of seven thousand souls; Geelong contains about eight hundred, Williamstown about one hundred and fifty, and Portland from four to five hundred. From the part of the coast known as Western Port, to Portland Bay, the country is filled with settlers; and this not merely on the coast, but for some hundred miles into the interior. It loaded, in 1841, twelve large ships with wool: the export of this article alone, by the Custom-house entries, was 9,976 bales, which, at the moderate calculation of £20 a bale, would be £199,520 sterling. The ships, with their cargoes, are under:—

Deva, 916 bales; Alexandrina, 467; Harriet, 564; Enmore, 1,150; James, 1,151; Lorina, 518; Sarah Bell, 506; Bran Kenwin, 1,174; Asia, 1,325; Mary Nixon, 977; Nero, 976; Wm. Wise, 152.

The town of Melbourne contains some buildings which would do no discredit to an English town. There are a theatre, and four or five churches, and chapels: there are, moreover, weekly and daily newspapers. Five steamers ply to and fro between it and the adjoining towns; while fleets of merchantmen lie at anchor in Hobson's Bay, laden with produce and wealth culled from every part of the world, and brought to the City of a Day. Melbourne would be looked upon as a fine town even in Europe, the streets being spacious and built with great attention to regularity, although the want of stone pavement renders them dirty in wet weather. Some of the leading shops are fitted up in a style of elegance which would do no discredit to Bath or Brough-

ton; while the country around is thickly studded with villas built after the French cottage style of architecture.

The fortunes which have been acquired in Australia have been from the wonderful advance of late years in the value of both land and stock, as well as from the cheapness of convict labour. Such individuals as came out in the early days of the Colony, and received large grants of land, with convict labour to bring this land into almost immediate cultivation, found themselves, about the year 1836, suddenly rising to wealth and importance. It may be necessary here to remark, that convict labour is comparatively of less value to a grazier than to a farmer: the first cannot trust convicts alone with his stock, unless he bribe them to good behaviour—the latter can oblige them to work. Therefore, when free emigration turned towards the Australian shores, land, stock, &c. advanced; and those who sold them did right, and might retire with an independent fortune.

At the time that Australia excited so much notice at home, many young men of good family emigrated thither, and turned their attention to sheep-farming. The capital of such persons, upon an average, would be from one to two thousand pounds. Altogether unacquainted with the price or management of stock, and in fact ignorant of business, they purchased sheep without any discrimination, and at extravagant rates, merely because they expected that sheep-farming, under any circumstances, would pay. Moreover, accustomed to mix at home in what is called good society, they considered it incumbent upon them, even in Australia, to maintain a certain dignity, and, with this view, they formed themselves into Clubs, more exclusive in the laws by which they were governed than the Travellers'—ay, or Brooks's. Amongst these Club gentry, useful labour of any sort was looked upon as a degradation; and if a member had been caught at work, he would have been openly expelled, or obliged 'to beat a retreat from the ridicule of his fellow-members. Australia cannot be a country for gentlemen; it must first be a country with a democratic society, as in America. At the present day, the shopkeepers, publicans, and graziers will be the men who will make the money, and the would-be aristocratic must all be ruined. What, then, could be more preposterous, than for men who had but a capital of one or two thousand pounds, to go on spending more than that sum per annum? Any sensible person could perceive in a moment that it could not last. It did not; but, unfortunately, it continued too long, and when the crash came they not only fell themselves, but they plunged hundreds of industrious and respectable individuals into the vortex, where all sank alike. In these days credit was cheap, and upon credit they floated away bravely for a length of time. A man who began with a thousand pounds, often managed to fail for five or six thousand. It was, in a word, a systematic plan of robbery pursued not only by such men, but likewise by not a few of the merchants; and this living upon credit was considered a splendid joke, and the man who could do it well was, in their parlance, said to be *cutting it fat*; while the poor wight who tried and struggled hard to pay was laughed at as mean-spirited. Credit, even, will however come

to an end at last; and first one failed, then another, and after that another, until the whole of the Colonists appeared involved in one general bankruptcy, and the Colony appeared to be ruined.

We would at once make every allowance for the young men who pursued this system, on the score of being excited with the novelty of their situation, and having perhaps never before been away from their mothers' apron-strings—where, by the bye, they had better have remained: they knew nothing of business, and considered they could not enough enjoy their freedom. But what excuse can for a moment be urged for the merchants? Bred as men of business, it may be fairly surmised that they are, or ought to be, men of business, and not silly, hap-hazard boys. Their system was tenfold more dishonest than the other. Accommodation bills, robbing the foreign merchant, embezzling the funds with which they had been entrusted, and appropriating what they ought to have remitted to their correspondents to the most extravagant and useless waste,—what honest heart does not burn at such base ingratitude and dishonesty? And then to see the rogues dashing away with horses and chariots, and “clothed in purple and fine linen,” taking the wall of honest men!

Now hear the impudence of these polished swindlers. No sooner have they failed, than they offer a composition of so much in the pound; and to pay this, they look, in a great measure, to consignments which they will appropriate for that purpose. Yes! it is very likely that after a man has attempted to cut your throat, you will go into his presence alone and unarmed: it is certain that when a man has committed a most flagrant breach of confidence, and decamped with your property, you would just the next day—suppose he were to solicit you—put the remainder of it into his hands, that he might help himself. That many have been themselves deluded by their contemporaries, is certain; but why involve themselves with such? That the conduct of many others has been most infamous, is likewise certain; and such conduct ought to meet with the scorn of all good men. May their names be erased from the world of commerce—may they become a byword and a scorn!

Australia was at that time in the heyday of apparent prosperity—a feverish prosperity founded upon fallacious and speculative expectations which never could be realised. Urged on by statements from interested writers, hundreds embarked to the Australian shores with their all, and, unfortunately, in the unsettled state of the new Colonies of Port Phillip and South Australia, many lost their little means before they got a fair start. A new Colony, when there is a full tide of emigration flowing inwards, will always be a very unsafe field for the operations of one unacquainted with the sudden rise and as sudden fluctuations for the worse of many a new Colony. Many of the emigrants were a class that stood the very worst chance of ultimate success; for it must be always borne in mind that Australia is not the country for gentlemen, unless prepared to turn their hands to useful labour. Altogether ignorant of what they were about, and going upon the principle that money under any circumstances was to be made, they purchased land and stock at

extravagant rates, engaged servants at enormous wages, lived like first-rate gentlemen at home, and were, in fact, guilty of every kind of folly. For a long time they wondered that they did not make money; but excuses were always ready to satisfy them for the moment,—the first years were the worst—times were bad just then for beginners, but by-and-bye all would be right. By such false reasoning did they delude their weak minds, just as if any investment could allow a man to spend his original capital once or twice over every year, and, at the same time, live in waste and indolence, doing nothing; and in a short time, to their great mortification, they found themselves insolvent before they had well got a fair start: yet, even then, they hoped against hope—nay, so credulous were they, that when they could not but be aware of the embarrassed state of their affairs, they still hoped something would turn up—what unforeseen accident this could be, we know not—and turn the tide of fortune in their favour. When, however, every hope departed, and even the most sanguine could not but be aware that there was not the shadow of a chance left them, the only course was to spend as much as possible while their credit continued unshaken; and many, who might have received some pity had they called their creditors together when they became aware of the embarrassed state of their affairs, met with nothing but the most bitter reproaches from their creditors, when they found the estate was fairly worn threadbare by useless waste. They never said a word until their property was in the hands of the sheriff.

After the first large failures—which, by the way, were caused by the stringent measures adopted by the different banking establishments, in order to save their own heads from the crash which was inevitable,—the dulness of times appeared. There had been a heavy importation of goods for the preceding years, and this helped to increase the great scarcity of money, as the capital of the Colony had been drawn away to pay foreign merchants. In the town of Melbourne there never was much capital in gold; and the branches of the different home banks there were themselves the origin of the present dulness and general insolvency. Every one in the Colony knows how they bolstered up one or two speculators, to the prejudice of the public in general; and before this panic be over, they will reap their reward. The eyes of the directors at home will be opened, and the evil will be remedied.*

Australia is at present labouring under accumulated difficulties; but the clouds which now dim her prosperity will soon be dispelled. The balance of trade has hitherto been against the Colony, now the scale

* The author has sincere pleasure in bearing testimony to the impartial management of the Branch of the Union Bank, since the management fell into the hands of J. B. Were, Esq., and Mr. Boyd. Mr. Longsdale is also a director, but, from the onerous duties of his official situation, has little time to bestow towards it. It is with no invidious feeling towards the other banks that the author makes this observation, but because those two gentlemen—who also, by the way, are men of intelligence and high standing (Mr. Were being the most extensive merchant in the place)—have received a great deal of unmerited censure from certain quarters for this very impartiality. The reason is obvious. They deserve the thanks of the community.

will turn the other way; in a few years money will again be plentiful, and until then we must wait patiently, and look upon the latter end of the over-traders and speculators. The greatness and prosperity of Australia are in the future. In New South Wales and South Australia alike, there must be a new system; new classes of men will spring up, of industrious—nay, of frugal habits, who, taught a salutary lesson by the fate of their predecessors, will operate cautiously and circumspectly. The whole property of the Colony will flow into different channels, for it must ultimately fall into the hands of the industrious. In many instances the servant will succeed his lord—and this literally; for when a settler falls into arrears to his servants, it is clear that a great portion of his stock must go to liquidate their claims. Why not, then, adopt a better and a shorter method? Why not make a fair division of the flocks at once, giving each of his men a portion, and looking after the residue himself? It is by far the simpler process, as the servant would most likely have to go into the market and purchase stock; for there is no other available method for such men to invest their money. Perhaps more than one-half of the Australian settlers at the present moment are behind; many of their flocks are, in fact, mortgaged to their shepherds, —for their claim is in reality a mortgage, and must be liquidated in full before any other creditor can be paid.

In this manner, a class of settlers different both in character and habits will start into existence. Like the pioneers of the American wilderness, they will be an order of men distinguished for enterprise, and regardless of personal danger or privation. Possessed of a self-confidence which can only be acquired by men thoroughly familiar with a Bush life, they will wander with their flocks into the open forest, and, like the patriarchs of old, have no fixed abode, but, pitching their tents wherever food and water for their flocks can be procured in the greatest abundance, their wants will be few, and their wool will more than supply them tea and sugar from the merchant, and perhaps a little rough Bush clothing; then they will exchange a few wethers with some farmer for the small quantity of flour which may be required for the use of the family. These men will marry poor working girls, and, as their families increase, set each member to tend their flocks and herds. Some will in the course of years arrive at great wealth, and all will be in a manner independent: their families will be a clever, industrious race—the real capitalists of Australia.

And will it not be a singular phenomenon, interesting to all, thus to see a new race, altogether different from their progenitors, spring up in the East?—the rugged, hardy Northmen softening down to the gay, voluptuous natives of Oriental climes. How different these airy, sparkling beings, from their ancestors of the cold North, whose blood all but stagnated in their veins! May they be equal to them in mental abilities!

That Australia will in a few years have large capitalists, is certain; and, strange to say, the first great capitalists of Australia are likely to be the very same class, and from the same source, that, when England began to change into a wealthy from a semi-barbarous nation, were the

first to arrive at great wealth. The elegant and accomplished D'Israeli writes, in his "Amenities of Literature," as follows:—"There arose, in consequence, a great change in agricultural pursuits, no longer practised to acquire a miserable existence; the land was changed into a new mine of wealth, and amongst the wealthiest classes of English subjects were the graziers, who indeed became the founders of many families." During the course of the first century, it is hardly probable that many large fortunes can be acquired either in mercantile business or manufacturing pursuits. Some look forward to speculations in land as a means of arriving at great wealth. So far would this injure the prosperity of the Colony, that if land speculation is carried beyond the verge of prudence, Australia would be again plunged into new difficulties and disasters. Mercantile business will be limited for many years to come; a few large houses in the emporiums on the coast will doubtless carry on an extensive and lucrative traffic with the interior, supplying the wants of the inhabitants, and exporting the produce of the country to foreign markets. It will, however, be a course of years before Australia can possess a carrying trade, with its concomitants—a highly-finished mercantile community, and markets, a *dépôt*, for produce and merchandise from every quarter of the globe. While mercantile or manufacturing pursuits can be followed by only a few, thousands will be successful in acquiring great wealth in the country; land will be purchased, and estates and families founded, which in time may rank with the great feudal families of the North—the Stanleys, Chesters, &c. of England—the Douglasses and Gordons of Scotland.

Such persons at home as have been deterred from emigrating by the news of bad times in the Colony, ought to receive any statements at the present moment with great caution. That not a few have squandered their all, is positive; and when such men find themselves by their own improvidence irretrievably ruined, as a matter of course they will curse the country, and wish, honestly, no doubt, they had never entered it. Many are apt, when they see the valuable prosperity of the Colony, in a state of transition from one order—the seemingly rich and idle, to another—the assiduous and frugal, but formerly poorer classes—to suppose that the Colony is ruined. This is a grand mistake, and, as we have already stated, it must be continually borne in mind that Australia is not a country for idlers and gentlemen, but for such as will work. Nearly every industrious person who has entered the Colony has improved his condition, unless involved with some friend who may have become insolvent; and of course this was his blame, and cannot be laid to the charge of the country. Every industrious man who may enter the Colony at the present day, is nearly certain to improve his condition, if he acts circumspectly at first. The former would be aristocrats,—look upon the effects of the sweeping change which has passed over the face of the country as problematical, because they well know it has sealed their fate: they find, where they formerly met with respect, they are now despised and hated; where men doffed their caps when they passed, they now spit at them: their day has gone by, and it is natural they would fain hope the Colony has gone down with them.

We have to notice one event which would retard the advancement of the Colony to a certain degree, viz., a deterioration in the value of wool for a long series of years. The present value of wool in the Colony is about one shilling per pound—which, by the way, is twopence per pound cheaper than in the year 1841, or the commencement of 1842. If Australian wool should fall in the European markets to one shilling, which would bring the value in the Colonies to ninepence per pound, then the Colony would be just one-fourth poorer than before, as wool is nearly the mainstay, and in the new Colonies it is the sole export; and it would to a certain extent injure England, as Australia could only purchase from her three-fourths of the value of former years. The Colonists look towards the reopening of the China trade as a probable chance of a reaction, the demand there for broadcloths being almost inexhaustible; a revival in the manufacturing trade at home would be instantly felt in the Colonies; and, at the worst, Australia possesses inexhaustible wealth in her flocks and herds, and her climate, which will produce almost any article. So long as wool is in demand, and country open, Australia will go on producing wool; for any person can turn his hand to grazing a few sheep, and therefore sheep increase to a large number, and from small beginnings the settler arrives at great wealth. If even the wool trade was knocked on the head, to a certain extent, which we can hardly believe possible, still Australia must be prosperous, as some other export would be found. During the year 1842, it is calculated that eight thousand pounds' worth of bark was shipped at Port Philip; and great preparations are now being made for the curing of salt meat, to be exported to China, and exchanged for teas. There is a joint-stock company now in operation for the purpose, and, with proper management, there appears to be no doubt of its success.

Of the fact, that Australia will for many years present a field for the exertions of the industrious of all classes, few are rash enough to entertain a doubt. A beggar is never seen in Australia, and I never heard of distress amongst any class, except towards the end of 1841, when a number of emigrants were poured into the Colony—some remained unemployed for a few weeks: all may earn a comfortable subsistence, but it is not the purpose of this article to hold forth prospects of great wealth to the emigrant. The poor man has an inexhaustible fortune in his hands; the man who will not engage as a shepherd, must have several hundred pounds to start him as a farmer or grazier; and then, to be successful, he must not be idle,—for Australia, as I have before observed, is not a country for gentlemen or idlers, but for such as will attend to their flocks, herds, and farms; and such as will do this, may calculate upon making money in a course of years.

Before concluding this article, a few remarks regarding the society of the Australian cities may be deemed necessary, or expected, by the English reader. This is a subject the writer would rather have avoided, as, his object being truth, it may not accord with this to say anything in commendation. With the higher orders he has nothing to do, as in Sydney there are men of birth and rank; of the second order, merchants, professional gentlemen, &c., he has observed with pain a care-

lessness of the future, and an extravagance in housekeeping—each person aiming to appear of greater consequence than he really is. To a keen observer of man, an Australian city presents a wonderful field for observation. Vagabonds and sharpers, from every quarter of the world, have made a dart thither to see what luck they could have,—often bolting, and cheating every person. This is the evil of a new Colony, with an unsettled population; but, in some years, this evil will be remedied, and society sink calmly down, and become domesticated to the country.

In reviewing what he has said, the writer feels deeply how inadequate are his talents, or the talents of any writer upon Australia, to the greatness of the subject; but he hopes it requires nothing farther than a plain statement to make the world sensible of the vast importance of this quarter of the globe. Here a mighty nation is being reared; a population which will increase so rapidly, as to make the Old World stare; a land which contains inexhaustible mines of wealth, in a soil and climate fit for the growth of nearly every article of produce, as well as in cultivated soil, flocks, herds, and fisheries, which has wonderful advantages in situation. Who can doubt that Australia will be a great country?

CANADIAN MANUFACTURES.

WITHIN a few years a powerful impetus has been given to the enterprise of Canada, by means of internal improvements, and the establishment of manufactures; and it is now understood by intelligent men that these are the great engines which bring into active operation the resources of the country, and ought consequently to be its established policy.

The establishment of manufactures in Canada would introduce a system of economy, which would, approved and adopted, keep the expenditure of the country within its income, and lay firmer and broader the foundation of our commerce, by increasing and diversifying our productions and the objects of exportation, and thus enlarge the commercial capacity of the nation.

The following statistics connected with manufactures (taken principally from Hunt's Merchant's Magazine) will show the importance of this subject to the people of this Province:—

The United States, with a consuming population of nearly 18,000,000, have 1,240 cotton factories, and a capital invested in the same to the amount of 51,102,359 dolrs., giving employment to 75,000 persons, and yearly manufacturing to the amount of 46,350,453 dolrs. in value. She not only supplies her home consumption, but exported in 1842, to foreign markets, manufactured cotton goods to the amount of 2,975,541 dolrs.

The population of Great Britain in 1841 was 26,857,028, the most industrious and wealthy nation in existence. The cotton interest in

England is as follows:—Capital invested 247,500,000 dolrs. annually, manufactures 160,000,000 dolrs. value, and employs 1,837,000 persons; and the great outlet for cotton goods is through her enterprise, immense capital, and Colonial Possessions. In 1831, England exported to her North American Colonies 15,618,061 yards of cotton goods—in 1840, 24,139,692 yards; and to the British West Indies in 1831, 21,975,594 yards—in 1840, 58,327,100 yards cotton goods. In the two first quarters of 1843, England exported to her different Colonial Possessions 137,560,032 yards of cotton goods, 40 per cent. of which went to India and China.

The following shows the imports and exports between the United States and Canada, as taken from public documents at Washington, from 1832 to 1841:—The exports from the United States to Canada were 40,645,643 dolrs.; the imports to the United States from Canada were 40,480,234 dolrs.: leaving an excess of exports from the United States to Canada of 13,162,309 dolrs. At Toronto, Canada West, the imports of American manufactured cotton goods from the 8th to 25th July, 1843, were 930 packages, the duties of which amounted to over 3,000 dolrs.

The value of British cottons, woollen, linen, and silk manufactures that found a market in Canada from England between the years 1832 and 1836, as taken from official documents, is as follows:—Cotton goods £2,630,969 sterling, linen £417,154, silk £460,503, woollens £1,919,028; yearly average of cotton goods £328,870 or 1,461,644 dolrs., silk £58,123 or 258,334 dls., woollen £239,878 or 1,066,126 dls.

The total amount of exports from England to Canada from 1832 to 1836 amounted to £12,886,933 sterling; during the same time Canada exported to England £7,844,411 sterling.

The City of Boston exported manufactured cotton goods to the East Indies, Sandwich Islands, North-West Coast, and South America, from the 1st of January, 1843, to October 31st, 1843, to the amount of 1,124,868 dolrs.

The consumption of cotton goods in the Canadas is rapidly on the increase, and any material advance in the existing price of raw cotton in the United States must arise from over-issue of currency, or speculative operations, and consequently cannot be maintained. Taking the future prices of cotton suitable for manufacturing three-fourths of all the cotton goods made in the United States to range from six to nine cents per pound, laid down at the factories, the articles of heavy grey cotton drills, cotton duck, negro cotton, cotton yarns, &c. &c., can be manufactured in Canada cheaper than in the United States or England.

It is admitted that there is a difference in the cost of the raw cotton of one cent per pound in favour of Canada over England, taking into consideration the difference of freight, duty, and commissions on sales in the two countries.

By manufacturing in our own Province, with an abatement in the price of the raw material as compared with the price paid for it by the British manufacturer, we should be sure of the home market for the

coarser cottons, without any further protective duty, and also be able to supply the Sister Province and the British West Indies with cotton fabrics.

With all these advantages in the cost of the raw cotton, together with our superior natural advantages of water-power and cheap labour, saving of duty, and shipping to other British ports, it does appear that Canada has the ability to succeed in this branch of business beyond England or the United States; and were she to become a manufacturing country, a few years would place her on an equal footing with other nations in manufacturing.

With these facts, anything like fair competition in cotton goods manufactured in our own Province and those imported from England or the United States is quite out of the question.

In the United States the manufactories are usually active, and they have heavy orders for the East India market. This, with the active demand for her home consumption, will do more to advance and establish the prosperity of her factories, than any additional tariff Congress could grant; and her trade for articles of domestic manufacture with foreign countries is yearly on the increase.

The manufacturing of cotton goods in the United States commenced in 1816. Since then the prices have been reduced on an average two-thirds; it is scarcely possible to name an article of home manufacture that has not been cheapened, and this too in the midst of increased wages of labour and high prices of agricultural products.

No country is more favourably situated for manufacturing than Canada.

The freedom of its institutions must naturally bring into active operation the enterprise and talents of her citizens.

It is a well-known fact that the frontier towns are almost entirely supplied with grey cottons from the United States, because the Canadian merchant can purchase this description of goods cheaper in the United States than in England; and that the coarser cotton goods, such as are made in the United States, rival the manufactures of Great Britain in the Canada market.

Since then we cannot consistently secure to England this branch of her trade, we should, by all means, afford every facility for making it an object of Colonial industry.

Massachusetts, with her 737,000 population, has a capital invested in manufacturing of 42,000,000 dolrs., and annually manufactures over 80,000,000 dolrs., and yearly imports the products of other States to the amount of 40,000,000 dolrs. This shows how she encourages and protects the labour of her own people, and promotes a free interchange of commodities between the different States.

The Merrimac Company at Lowell have recently declared a semi-annual dividend of ten per cent.; also the Boot, Lowell, Suffolk, and Tremont Companies, each declared the same dividend.

Lowell (the Manchester of America) twenty years ago contained only 200 inhabitants—now it embraces a population of 30,000; the capital invested is 10,500,000 dolrs.—number of operatives 10,000, of

whom 7,000 are females; the average monthly wages are 170,000 dolrs., and they yearly manufacture 73,833,400 yards of cloth.

By becoming a manufacturing people, we create within ourselves domestic industry, and furnish, to a certain extent, what we have hitherto purchased from abroad; we increase the productions of labour, by diverting a portion from pursuits already overstocked to other more valuable employment, and thus develop more fully the resources of the country, adding at the same time to the value of our own labour precisely in proportion as we diminish importation.

In this country nothing has been done in the manufacture of hosiery or any of its branches, neglected, seemingly, as unworthy of notice; while in other countries it has been considered one of the most important branches of their multiplied manufactures, and is sought after as the safest and most lucrative investment: as, for instance, take the large establishments at Nottingham and Leicester, employing some 40 to 50,000 knitting looms, and a capital of from £50,000 to £2,000,000 each. The larger number of proprietors of these establishments, or their fathers before them, were once but poor workmen, and, working with their own hands, have made these immense fortunes by the manufacture of hosiery. It is a fact that all the knitting machines in Europe are conducted and worked by hand.

The nations of Europe are more or less engaged in the culture and manufacture of silk. France more than any other country derives her power and resources mainly from this branch of her industry; her example has induced England, Holland, Germany, and Sweden to engage with zeal in the same pursuits. The expense of manufacturing silk in Canada would not be more than in Europe, as the state of society is well adapted to promote the successful manufacture of silk, it being an employment in which females and children may be honourably and profitably engaged.—Between the years 1821 and 1828, England imported 24,157,568 pounds of raw silk, which when manufactured was worth £120,700,580 sterling or 536,222,237 dolrs., making a yearly average consumption of silk of £15,096,322 sterling or 67,027,779 dolrs., of which England does not raise one pound of the raw material, and gives employment to more than 400,000 people. The raw silk could be taken from Custom-house bond in England and brought to Canada at a small expense.

As regards local and sectional considerations, the great variety of interests in this our widely-extended country is not overlooked, but it is very justly determined that the protection and prosperity of each section is the protection and prosperity of the whole country. We should go upon the assumption that national and personal economy are based upon the same principles, and that national prosperity is but the aggregate of individual prosperity. The United States in 1842 raised 441,829,246 bushels of Indian corn, and the commercial documents show that only 1,684,000 bushels were sent out of the country, leaving more than 440,000,000 for home consumption. The importance of a home market will appear from the fact that the New England States, the seat of manufactories, consume annually

beyond their own productions about 7,000,000 bushels of wheat, which is about 500,000 bushels more than the average export from the whole country for the last five years. Of grain other than wheat, Massachusetts and Rhode Island consume of other grain-growing States to the amount of 3,675,000 bushels, which is nearly three times the amount that is yearly sent to a foreign market. Massachusetts alone annually consumes the products of the other States to the amount of 40,000,000, dolrs., which is equal to one-half the annual exports of the products of the United States, exclusive of manufactured articles. In the United States 1,000,000 of her population are engaged in the various branches of manufactures. All these are consumers of meat and grain, and this market is worth more to the farmers of the Middle and Western States than all other markets in the world. If she were to estimate the value of the products of the soil consumed by them to be but twelve and a half cents per day each, it would in a single year amount to 182,500,000, dolrs. It is estimated that the manufacture of iron alone annually consumes nine millions of the agricultural products. The total amount of capital employed in manufacturing, mining, and the mechanic arts in the United States is 400,000,000; and I have no hesitation in saying that this sum thus invested has increased the value of real estate in that country vastly beyond that amount.

The price of land and of agricultural products depends much upon their proximity to market. Go through the country, and you will see land of the same intrinsic value selling for agricultural purposes at prices varying from 2 to 200 dolrs. per acre, when the main consideration affecting the price is their nearness to a market. "Wherever manufactures and the mechanical arts flourish, there is a demand for agricultural products at remunerating prices, so that the cultivators of the soil receive their full share of the benefits by the operation; and whenever a village springs up, from manufacturing or other causes, the price of land is increased for miles around, and the farmer finds a market for the production of his soil near his own door; and not only do the great staples of agriculture increase in value by this home market, but a thousand nameless articles assume a value unknown before. A market in a manufacturing district at home is always more sure than any foreign market; the demand is constant and to be relied upon, whereas the foreign market is always uncertain. In fact, the whole face of the country becomes changed, and the population are thriving, industrious, and happy.

It has always appeared passing strange to us, that possessing the superior advantages which Canada does, both as regards market and facilities for carrying on manufactures, more attention is not paid to this branch of industry, especially important as it is to the welfare and prosperity of the country. We have only to cross the line 45°, and we find thriving manufactures everywhere established and sustained under the fostering protection of Government. Not a stream is allowed to pursue its way to the ocean, without passing through the water-wheels of numerous factories, propelling an endless variety of machinery; thus giving employment and affording the means of comfortable subsistence

to numbers otherwise unemployed, and adding every hour to the wealth of the country. Where Nature has failed to lend her hand in affording the water-power to aid the industry of the mechanic, we hear, in the place of the roaring of the factory dam, the puffing and clatter of the steam-engine; we see flourishing villages springing up and rapidly increasing in wealth and population, while the farmer is afforded a ready market for his produce almost at his own door. What a contrast does Canada present, with its unbounded resources, its immense water-power, and the cheapness of labour! In no country are there greater facilities, and in none are manufactures so little attended to. Why may not Canada boast of its Manchester or Lowell?—because only of the neglect and inertness of her people. Let there but be a spirit of enterprise in regard to manufactures, and our eyes would not be pained with the sight of neglected and ill-cultivated farms, fields overgrown with thistles and weeds, and an indolent people. The Canadians would be roused up, and begin to feel their wants and seek improvement, and a spur and such an impetus would be given to agriculture as would tend to the prosperity and advancement of the country. We are happy to perceive, however, the germ—the dawning of a better state of things than has hitherto existed. An extensive Cotton Factory is already in operation at Chambly, while the “Sherbrooke Factory Bill” has passed the Legislature, and in a short time, we learn, a large building will be erected, and preparations made for manufacturing on a large scale. Glass-works have recently been erected at St. Johns, by a Mr. Smith of Burlington, and in a few days, we learn, employment will be afforded to at least eighty hands in the manufacture of glass, &c. The manufacture of wooden ware has been very favourably commenced lately by Mr. Laverock of Alexander-street. He has already sent to market several thousand pails fully equal in quality and appearance to any imported from the States. The machinery is most simple and ingenious, and will well repay a visit to Mr. L.’s establishment.—We must not omit the mention of the Tanneries at New Glasgow, as well as those of Mr. Bridgman at St. Pie. Though long established, they have suffered from foreign competition; but with the protection now afforded by suitable duties on manufactured leather, and low rates on the raw material, this branch of industry cannot fail to be most successful and profitable. We might mention other branches of manufacture which have been some time in existence, or about being commenced, did our space permit; but this is enough for our present purpose to show that if Canada regards her true policy or interests, she will encourage and afford every protection to her home manufactures.

This recapitulation of the advantages of Canada for manufacturing purposes, and also calling into active operation her natural resources, demands the especial attention of her politicians and capitalists; and although it has been reproachfully observed that in Canada the arts, manufactures, &c. are half a century behind the age, yet still the spirit and energy of her people have either been misunderstood or perverted, and it remains to be shown that, in the full development of both, they have only been waiting a suitable opportunity.

THE GOLD MINES OF THE WEST.

BY GEORGINA C. MUNRO.

[It is said, though the story is itself assuming somewhat of a legendary character, that gold mines might be found in North as well as in South America, did not the Indians of the former fear to discover them, in consequence of a tradition that, should they become known, *they* would be compelled to work in them as slaves.*]

O'ER Michigan how deeply sigh
 Those breezes, as in grief
 That Redman's power has fled by,
 As brightness from the leaf
 They bear away, with heedless breath,
 To float o'er distant waves—
 Then sink, at last, to sleep in death,
 Far from their brothers' graves!
 The sun-rays from the pathless wild,
 And that lone shore, have died,
 Where the pale-face and forest-child
 Are standing side by side;
 And sadder than the hollow moans
 Of the fast-darkening lake,
 Yet proud and stern, the hunter's tones
 Its lingering echoes wake.

"Ye have swept us from our haunts of yore,
 Beside the pleasant streams,
 And the salt waves, by the distant shore,
 Which speak to us in dreams.
 With tales of peace our ears were won—
 With warrior's iron hand,
 The children of the setting sun
 Were driven from their land.
 And we have fled, like hunted deer,
 Before the hunter's face—
 Yet, following fast, we ever hear
 The footsteps of your race!
 And ever still there come the sounds
 Of voices from the West,
 Which to the Happy Hunting Grounds
 Are calling us to rest.
 What seek ye more?—our scatter'd tribes
 Sink fast as melting snow;
 We cannot take the stranger's bribes,
 And to our fathers show;

* Our fair contributor seems to be unaware that gold is found in several of the American States. In our second volume, p. 75, we gave an account of the operation of the United States Mint, and the amount of native gold produced and coined.—EDITOR.

And say, we have forgot their words,
 And fill'd your hands with gold,
 While still the songs of summer birds
 Repeat the tales they told.
 They said that we should be too weak
 To linger near their graves;
 But nought, except the gold ye seek,
 Could make the Red men slaves:
 'They bade our feet forget the way,
 They bade our eyes forget
 The spots wherein those treasures lay—
 Where they are sleeping yet!

“ Our brothers dwelt in lands as fair,
 With sunny hills and plains;
 But there were treasures gleaming there
 To buy its children chains!
 And ever when the South wind blows,
 'Tis laden with their sighs,
 And tells the land of melting snows
 Our fathers' words were wise.
 The Indian cannot toil in mines,
 The pale-face hath not found—
 But ever where the red gold shines,
 The Red man shall be bound.
 'Tis even thus our fathers' words
 Spoke to our hearts of gold;
 And still the songs of summer birds
 Repeat the tales they told.
 We show no treasures of the earth,
 Whereon we must not rest—
 Your brothers taught our own their worth,
 Those Gold Mines of the West!”

Southsea, Feb. 11, 1846.

STATISTICS OF JAMAICA.

WE consider it one of the most important duties we can perform, to collect and arrange for future reference the various statistical returns published from time to time in the Colonies, and with this view we reprint the following tables bearing on the commerce, &c. of Jamaica. We are glad to find that, upon the motion of Mr. Johnston, a Committee of the House of Assembly has been appointed to report on the best means of obtaining and publishing a statistical account of the several particulars of this island. We shall await with impatience the result of the labours of this Committee.

At p. 247-8 of vol. iv. will be found a return of the Imports to the island for the three years ending 1844, and the Exports for the year 1844; and a more detailed account of the Import Trade is furnished at p. 330 of the same volume. The following Tables will carry on the sequence, and afford further information concerning the progress of the island.

A Return of Imports to Jamaica during the Year ended 30th September, 1845.

NAMES OF PORT.		Gallons Brandy.	Gallons Gin.	Barrels Flour.	Barrels Corn Meal.	Barrels Bread.	Bags Bread.	Cwt. Bread.	Lbs. Rice.	Bags Rice.	Bags Corn.	Casks of dry Fish.	Boxes dry Fish.	Tierces dry Fish.	Barrels pickled Fish.	Firkins pickled Fish.
Kingston	47715	2005	66653	13011	11912	82	..	93	451320	17318	56606	9037	17946	5601	21110	426
Morant Bay.....	225	12	255	30	..	..	93	39	16862	..	734	..	251	359	413	..
Port Antonio.....	..	..	155	10	48	..	39	48	112	1	469	824	1269	138	1424	..
Annotto Bay .....	..	..	315	50	70	..	48	198	4524	..	291	122	678	303	1641	..
Port Maria	118	..	1442	60	..	..	198	21405	..	2616	..	..	..	..	1257	..
St. Ann's Bay	59	..	1935	175	..	..	161	11268	..	2250	..	52	160	101	594	..
Rio Bueno	297	64	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	255	..	..	..	..	30	..
Falmouth.....	2378	1749	34720	3706	659	..	..	..	..	1654	8090	3897	2604	..	5092	124
Montego Bay	1324	529	8958	1474	1460	..	977	977	103746	1654	3346	1196	1725	774	2184	..
Savanna-la-Mer	285	51	1670	404	304	..	67	67	63801	100	1228	140	284	217	806	..
Lucea	111	40	424	60	..	..	39	39	46465	..	194	31	130	5	61	..
Black River.....	419	64	500	90	108	..	..	..	8190	..	20	3	3	50	402	..
Old Harbour .....	..	12	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	190	..	..	..	..	57	..
Total	52931	4526	117027	19070	14561	82	1622	727693	19518	75346	15302	25050	7548	35071	550	..

(A Return of Imports to Jamaica, continued.)

NAMES OF PORT.	W. O. Staves.		R. O. Staves.		Shingles.	Lumber.	Wood Hoops.	Barrels Beer.	Barrels Pork.	Firkins Butter & Lard.	Boxes Candles.	Boxes Soap.	Horses.	Mules.	Asses.	Cattle.	Tonnage.
Kingston	31000	146000	3885411	5235566	212470	1486	10855	25406	19237	43963	296	27	260	1037	75638		
Morant Bay.....	33950	169000	625850	404409	83800	45	40	132	83	138	..	..	..	..	98	5106	
Port Antonio	17740	26400	85625	97850	11650	22	81	55	4	2	..	..	..	..	..	2156	
Annotto Bay	1950	..	148000	51628	47750	42	66	105	64	27	..	..	..	..	..	1	1718
Port Maria	78358	111263	470605	322671	89450	87	39	91	121	74	13	..	..	..	3	98	5568
St. Ann's Bay	75480	..	131600	167662	56350	163	323	201	154	92	..	..	..	..	..	5	2903
Rio Bueno .....	..	..	..	..	15940	9	13	22	124	11	..	..	..	..	..	..	1393
Falmouth.....	164600	133900	970382	943648	98800	311	805	1856	2325	2313	84	..	..	..	..	..	11508
Montego Bay	131600	237650	859875	772878	99350	206	2155	1267	1469	4392	55	63	2	360	9060	..	..
Savannah-la-Mar	55952	121288	304600	508348	62275	94	408	181	217	684	4	..	..	..	..	160	2439
Lucea	12000	20400	82000	134832	44050	50	155	244	118	295	4	..	..	..	1	..	4015
Black River.....	..	..	181000	77700	33250	52	237	140	89	196	..	..	..	..	..	..	590
Old Harbour .....	..	..	32900	291029	96300	55	66	76	40	90	..	..	..	..	..	122	3327
Total	302630	965901	7668048	9008221	951435	2622	15243	29776	24045	52277	456	90	266	1937	125421	..	..

Public Treasury, 30th Sept. 1845.

Jno. Edwards, Receiver-General.

A RETURN showing the Staple Exports of Jamaica, between the 10th day of October, 1844, and the 10th day of October, 1845.

	SUGAR.			RUM.			GINGER.		PIMENTO.		COFFEE.
	Hhds.	Tns.	Brls.	Phns.	Hhds.	Casks.	Casks.	Bags.	Casks.	Bags.	Lbs.
Kingston and Old Harbour	10545	946	2608	3562	38	18	115	1105	127	3706	3290019
Morant Bay and Port Morant	3877	378	530	994	..	..	61	..	..	..	4236
Port Antonio	380	159	30	272	..	..	..	..	..	130	3000
Port Maria and Annotto Bay	5384	610	105	1804	1	3	32	..	2	2845	3439
Falmouth, Rio Bueno, & St. Ann's Bay	10415	1599	903	4767	33	116	298	..	6	43232	422130
Montego Bay and Lucea	7934	1291	447	3135	55	84	846	..	..	3677	20200
Savanna-la-Mar and Black River	4931	806	174	2321	25	44	2154	24	98	5904	1278185
Total	43466	5789	4797	16855	152	265	3506	1129	233	59494	5021290

A RETURN, showing the amount of Duties collected by the Officers of Her Majesty's Customs at the several Ports in the Island of Jamaica, under the Acts hereinafter specified, between the 10th day of October, 1844, and 10th day of October, 1845, distinguishing each Act and Port.—Sterling, at 4s. 2d. per dollar.

	Quarter ended 5th January, 1845.				Quarter ended 5th April, 1845.				Quarter ended 5th July, 1845.				Quarter ended 10th October, 1845.				Total Duties under British Acts, 5 and 6 Vict. c. 49.	Total Duties under Island Act, 8 Vict. c. 14.	Total Duties under Island Act, 7 Vict. c. 17, 8 Vict. c. 14, c. 98.	Grand Total during the Year ended 10th October, 1845.											
	£	s.	d.	a. d.	£	s.	d.	a. d.	£	s.	d.	a. d.	£	s.	d.	a. d.					£	s.	d.	a. d.							
Kingston and Old Harbour.....	3728	15	2	30419	6	4	4129	3	10	29242	6	7	4448	5	9	31030	19	11	4232	11	10	32506	8	7	123199	1	5	138758	3	0	
Morant Bay and Port Morant	41	14	3	726	14	5		7	11	3	240	12	8	17	14	4	500	1	8	2	10	2	448	15	10	69	10	0	1916	4	7
Port Antonio	5	15	8	472	9	2		37	0	4	263	4	8	10	10	0	412	3	7	2	13	7	190	3	4	55	19	7	1338	0	9
Port Maria and Annotto Bay	80	6	9	550	9	1	105	8	1	1292	18	2	79	0	5	906	6	8	152	1	7	1437	10	1	416	16	10	4187	4	0	
Falmouth, Rio Bueno, and St. Ann's Bay	765	10	11	5055	4	1	962	8	0	4725	6	10	998	18	7	4395	14	6	903	14	9	4070	17	11	3628	12	3	18747	3	4	
Montego Bay and Lucea.....	543	5	0	3003	7	3	682	1	11	4403	8	5	861	19	2	3623	0	5	577	6	8	2532	9	2	2464	12	9	13582	5	3	
Savanna-la-Mar and Black River ...	157	2	10	1494	11	8	137	1	0	1524	10	9	184	9	0	1090	11	9	149	4	3	843	1	0	627	17	1	4932	15	2	
Total.....	5322	10	7	41722	2	0	6060	19	5	41692	8	1	16418	17	3	42438	18	6	6020	2	10	42029	5	11	167903	14	6	191725	4	7	

DRAWBACKS AND ALLOWANCES.				COMPARATIVE STATEMENT.			
Drawback from 10th Oct. 1843, to 10th Oct. 1844.	Allowance for damage by sea water.	Drawback from 10th Oct. 1844, to 10th Oct. 1845.	Allowance for damage by sea water.		From 10th Oct. 1843, to 10th Oct. 1844.	From 10th Oct. 1844, to 10th Oct. 1845.	
1844.	£ s. d.	1845.	£ s. d.	Amount of duty collected by officers of Her Majesty's Customs, at the several ports of Jamaica under the Colonial Import Act	£	s. d.	£ s. d.
5th Jan. 1474 7 5	5th Jan. 0 0 0	5th Jan. 1909 15 3	5th Jan. 32 13 10	Deduct for drawbacks and allowances from the 10th October, 1843, to the 10th October, 1844	163633	15	2 167902 14 6
5th April 2319 16 8	5th April 4 12 4	5th April 1749 18 7	5th April 1 12 0	Ditto ditto from the 10th October, 1844, to the 10th October, 1845	8195	1	0
5th July 1864 12 0	5th July 0 0 0	5th July 1465 10 8	5th July 4 1 8	Net amount of imports, showing each year	155438	14	2 160511 13 5
10th Oct. 2511 12 5	10th Oct. 20 0 2	10th Oct. 2227 9 1	10th Oct. 0 0 0	Net increase of duties received under the Island Import Act, year ended 10th Oct. 1845	7391	1	1
£8170 8. 6	£24 12 6	£7352 13 7	£38 7 6				
Total.....£8191 1s. 0d.	Total.....£7391 1s. 1d.						

Abstract of amount of duty collected during the year ended the 10th October, 1845—

Duties under British Act, 5th and 6th Victoria, chapter 49	£23822 10 1
Duties under Colonial Act, 7th Victoria, chapter 17	167902 14 6
Duties under Colonial Act, 8th Victoria, chapter 14	

Total amount collected during the year.....£191725 4 7

Custom-House, Kingston, Jamaica, October, 1845.

I. G. SWAINSON, Collector.
W. G. FREEMAN, Controller.

A RETURN of the Amount of Tonnage and Fees collected between the 1st January and 30th September, 1845, in Kingston, and by each of the several Sub-Collectors of Customs, and paid into the Treasury, under the 26th Chapter, 8th Victoria.

Ports.	No. of Tons.	Customs' Tonnage.	Tax on Tonnage.	Transient or Hospital.	Light-house Dues.	Gunpowder Account.	Total.	Secretary's Fees.	Health Officer's Fees.	GRAND TOTAL.
		£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Kingston	55378	6286 5 0	838 3 4	994 4 8	691 19 6	1568 0 0	10378 12 6	318 9 0	147 14 9	10844 16 3
Morant Bay ..	4376	552 0 0	73 12 0	82 16 6	55 4 0	147 4 0	910 16 6	16 19 0	8 14 0	936 9 6
Annotto Bay ..	1937	242 0 0	32 5 4	36 16 4	24 4 0	64 10 8	399 16 4	12 6 0	4 13 0	416 15 4
Port Antonio ..	1630	203 15 0	27 3 4	41 19 2	20 7 6	47 6 0	340 11 0	17 8 0	7 1 0	365 0 0
Port Maria....	3378	422 5 0	56 6 0	64 18 0	42 4 6	112 12 0	698 5 6	15 18 0	7 13 0	721 16 6
St. Ann's Bay..	2456	307 0 0	40 18 8	43 13 8	30 5 0	81 17 4	503 14 8	12 15 0	6 12 0	523 1 8
Rto Bueno	1022	99 2 6	33 4 4	13 4 4	9 18 3	26 8 8	161 18 1	3 12 0	1 13 0	167 3 1
Falmouth	10379	1189 5 0	158 11 4	166 6 8	120 2 3	311 3 4	1945 8 7	48 18 0	25 4 0	2019 10 7
Montego Bay..	8146	1018 5 0	135 15 4	154 7 0	99 8 3	248 7 4	1656 2 11	54 3 0	24 12 0	1734 17 11
Lucea	2496	312 0 6	41 12 0	42 7 0	31 4 0	83 4 0	510 7 6	8 2 0	4 13 0	523 2 6
Savanna-la-Mar	1839	229 17 6	30 13 0	29 18 10	22 19 9	61 6 0	374 15 1	9 0 0	4 16 0	388 11 1
Black River ..	164	20 10 0	0 19 8	1 17 2	2 1 0	1 19 4	27 7 2	2 8 0	0 6 0	30 1 2
Old Harbour ..	2707	338 7 6	45 2 4	45 2 4	33 13 9	90 4 8	552 10 7	6 9 0	4 13 0	563 12 7
.	95908	11220 13 0	1494 6 8	1717 11 8	1183 11 9	2844 3 4	18460 6 5	526 7 0	248 4 9	19234 18 2

Public Treasury, 10th November, 1845.

JOHN EDWARDS, Receiver-General.

GENERAL ABSTRACT OF Births and Deaths, Registered in the Island Secretary's Office, between 4th June, 1844, and 4th June, 1845.

BIRTHS FROM 4TH JUNE, 1844, TO 4TH JUNE, 1845. DEATHS FROM 4TH JUNE, 1844, TO 4TH JUNE, 1845.											
September.			December.			March.			June.		
Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
MIDDLESEX.											
St. Catherine.....	9	6	15	15	9	24	9	18	27	23	50
St. Dorothy.....	6	4	10	17	17	34	11	13	24	19	43
St. John.....	6	7	13	15	23	38	6	9	15	5	20
St. Thomas in the Vale.	25	24	49	42	32	74	33	25	58	7	65
Clarendon.....	11	19	30	32	20	53	24	19	43	73	116
Veré.....	7	7	14	5	5	10	5	10	13	9	22
Manchester.....	23	22	45	55	52	107	23	34	57	11	68
St. Mary.....	6	10	16	15	15	30	23	25	48	32	80
St. Ann.....	38	39	77	67	68	135	9	56	115	65	180
SURREY.											
Kingston.....	22	36	58	28	29	57	29	34	63	36	99
Port Royal.....	1	4	5	4	7	11	6	2	8	10	18
St. Andrew.....	12	8	20	18	27	46	14	9	24	21	45
St. Thomas in the East.	14	16	30	18	31	49	10	3	13	2	15
Portland.....	5	8	13	5	6	11	9	6	15	7	22
St. George.....	8	11	19	19	17	36	23	29	52	27	79
St. David.....	11	8	19	21	23	46	26	31	57	25	82
Metcalfe.....	9	7	16	53	46	99	39	31	70	46	116
CORNWALL.											
St. Elizabeth.....	22	18	40	47	35	82	67	65	132	10	142
Westmoreland.....	23	14	37	41	34	75	44	51	95	36	131
Hanover.....	10	24	34	14	16	30	23	25	48	19	67
St. James.....	47	48	95	56	67	123	45	51	96	96	192
Trelawny.....	12	8	20	14	14	28	5	2	7	6	13
	327	348	675	602	593	1198	533	546	1080	680	1760
	4369	532	445	978	570	520	1091	422	393	815	446
	3744										

Total number of Births during the above period, 4369; ditto of Deaths, 3744.

N.B.—The foregoing Abstract cannot be looked upon as correct in numerical detail, inasmuch as it appears, by the Returns upon which it is founded, that very few of the Assistant-Registrars have performed the duty assigned to them by the Eighth Victoria, chapter forty-seven; and a general belief also prevails that the Registry of a Birth or a Death has been omitted, in many instances, by individuals.

In the totals thus marked, *, registrations are included in which sexes are not specified.

ON THE VEGETABLE ORIGIN OF BASALTIC COLUMNS.

BY CAPT. CHARLES MORTON, R.N.

(Continued from vol. vi. p. 450.)

It was shown towards the close of my last essay, that the descriptions of basaltic columns given by philosophers who maintain their volcanic origin represent them as bearing a striking resemblance to the bamboo of the present day; that the bamboos actually secrete silex, or solid nodules of flint, the chief component part of basaltic columns; and that there is, according to good authority, a forest of living petrified trees in the Texas!

The fact of the columns of the Giant's Causeway and the bamboos being both articulated, with semispherical tenons, and corresponding sockets or mortises, is certainly a very strong feature; and when it is remembered that both in articulated basaltic columns, and in articulated bamboos, the tenons are indiscriminately in the upper or the lower ends of the joints, but invariably in the one or the other, it certainly does, to an unphilosophic mind like mine, seem perfectly impossible that the one can have a volcanic and the other a vegetable origin; such a similarity of structure could surely never be accomplished by such opposite means. I leave the advocates of the volcanic theory to reconcile this apparent impossibility.

I have remarked that several varieties of the bamboo exist in India and China: the length of the joints vary considerably, also the diameter and height of the bamboos; besides which, some are cylindrical, like those of Jamaica; others have several flat sides or faces; another sort has no lateral branches whatever. In some the joints are often nine or ten feet long, while others again have no joints at all; thus resembling the basaltic columns of continuous, instead of articulated or jointed shafts.

But it is no more necessary for me to show a perfect identity between the bamboos of the present day and those of former worlds, than it is for the naturalist to show a perfect similarity between the monstrous antediluvian animals, and our diminutive creatures of corresponding tribes. I have shown that the articulations of bamboos and basaltic columns are as precisely similar as the articulation of the bones of existing and antediluvian animals; that the descriptions given by philosophers of basaltic columns might, without distortion, apply to our graceful bamboos of the present day. Do they not "*spread out above and diverge in all directions like enormous fans?*" Do not the separate groups *bend towards one another at the tops, so as to impart the appearance of gigantic fluted pillars and arches of Gothic architec-*

ture? Are they not articulated, with *semispherical tenons*, and corresponding *sockets or mortises*? Do they not contain *silex or flint*, the most prominent component part of basaltic columns? and do not the joints of the Jamaica bamboos, as well as the basaltic columns of the far-famed Cyclops Rocks, present to our view "*hollow cylinders like cannon*?" What further similarity, I would ask, can it be required for me to adduce, in order to impart a conviction of the similarity of their origin? How the distinguished philosophers of Europe could for so many centuries past have gazed upon the Isle of Staffa without being instantly struck with a conviction of its vegetable origin, is certainly to me a matter of deep surprise. I am aware that their own ignorance of a vegetable production articulated like basaltic columns has been advanced by the great authorities of the day as a reason for treating my suggestions with indifference: but their ignorance should not, I think, be regarded as proof of mine; every negro in Jamaica can attest the fact of the bamboo being articulated as I have represented it to be. I have paid the compliment due to distinguished learning and ability, but the apprehension of indifference or unmerited derision shall never deter me from persevering in the attempt to establish the beautiful and important truth it has been left for me to announce. My vanity may, I know, be deemed proof of ignorance; but neither Nelson nor Napoleon was exempt from this human failing: it inspired them with confidence to contemplate and courage to achieve the most glorious victories. "What will our country, what will posterity say?" was ever uppermost in their thoughts. The magnificent columns of the Giant's Causeway stand forward as monuments to record the memory of those who may have the courage and ability to establish their true origin. The vanity which prompts me to compete for such a prize, if not praiseworthy, is, I think, at least excusable, though it places me in opposition to "all living geologists." I have the satisfaction of knowing that my essays have already made a deep impression on the minds of some; and though I cannot expect that they should all approve, I am induced to believe that most of my readers wish me to proceed. I therefore return from this long digression, and resume my task with dazzling prospects of success before me. I have myself seen the renowned volcanoes of Etna, Stromboli, and Vesuvius—rambled about the extinguished craters of volcanic islands, and dwelt with wondering awe upon the numerous proofs of eruptive violence which surrounded me. I have long been fully impressed with the natural conviction, that volcanoes might destroy basaltic columns, and convert them into streams of molten lava; but none of the confused heaps of the fused and shattered fragments of basalt, corals, and other matters which met my view, ever appeared as bearing the slightest resemblance to the magnificent columns of the Giant's Causeway, or those of Staffa. I should as soon have thought of asserting, that the Monument and St. Paul's were thrown up by earthquakes, as to maintain that such destructive agents as volcanoes could produce such beautiful structures as Bamboo articulated Basalt Columns. I have already remarked that the most colossal of these mighty relics of a

former world do not bear such disparity in size to the bamboos of the present day, as the monstrous antediluvian lizard, the iguanodon, did to our diminutive reptiles of similar tribes. Our bamboos of the present day would perhaps have been as mere reeds and grass to many of the monstrous antediluvian animals; and yet they must have been furnished with not only a vegetable kingdom to feed upon, corresponding in luxuriance to their own enormous magnitude, but also to form the gigantic trees of the primitive forests they inhabited. The iguanodon was forty or fifty times as long, and many thousand times as big, as our largest lizards. Now, bamboos only five or six times as lofty as some of the present day would suffice to give us a mountain range upwards of a thousand feet in height. Thus are the vertical escarpments of Scotland's most lofty and precipitous mountains easily accounted for. On the simple principle of its bamboo or vegetable origin, the Isle of Staffa rises majestically before our view, without in any way violating or distorting the beautiful laws of nature to account for its appearance. None, however, of the columns of this isle are more than fifty-five feet in height; and many of the smaller ones, "diverging in all directions," merely correspond in size with the branches of our bamboos. But there is a stratum above the large columns, some sixty feet in depth, which, no doubt, consists of the debris of the more lofty parts of the bamboos, of which the large columns are found; not one-tenth, perhaps, of their original height now remains erect. It is evidently just as possible that the bamboos, or other vegetable productions of former worlds, should have had the property of secreting basalt, or a fluid susceptible of being converted into that substance, as they should now have the power of secreting solid nodules or masses of flint, or that a forest of living petrified trees should exist in the Texas. We all know that many of the timbers of the present day are as hard as stone that they contain earths and metal—magnesia, lime, flint, clay, iron, &c.; and accordingly, that as the proportions of these vary in different sorts of existing trees, so might the proportions contained in antediluvian trees differ very materially from those of the present day. The idea of a vegetable producing stone, or matter susceptible of being converted into stone, may at first sight appear preposterous; but do we not call the substance which envelops the kernel of the peach, apricot, nectarine, mango, plum, and many other fruits, a stone? Does not the shell of the cocoa-nut acquire the hardness of flint? Yet these, as well as our hardest timbers, lignum-vitæ, ebony, ironwood, &c., were once a fluid sap! Besides, of what, I may ask, are the bones of the most gigantic animals, the ivory tusks of the elephant, composed? Were they not once equally fluid? Were they not eliminated from the blood, and was not the blood derived from the vegetable food on which the animals fed? Therefore, however startling the idea at first, we see that nothing is more simple and natural than that trees should produce stone columns, and even whole mountain ranges. Thus I may again venture to repeat, with the boldness and enthusiasm, a conviction of the truth inspires, that in the magnificent columns of the Giant's Causeway

we behold the "splendid relics of the stupendous bamboos of a far-distant age!"

[In a letter received since the foregoing was in type, Capt. Morton adds some remarks to the above, which we append. We also publish an account of a petrified forest, which tends somewhat to confirm his observations. An allusion to the petrified forest of Texas will be found at vol. iv. p. 191 of the COLONIAL MAGAZINE.]

Cornwall Estate, Westmoreland,
Jamaica, Dec. 20, 1845.

SIR,—Candidates for public approbation must, of course, be cautious how they patronise new theories; but I nevertheless think the time has arrived when the world is sufficiently enlightened to receive, without alarm, more rational ideas relative to the structure of our globe.

I have selected basaltic columns as yielding the *most* obvious proof of a vegetable origin; but other stone formations may, with equal certainty, be traced to a similar source,—thus leading to beautiful solutions of previous mysteries. Though I may not yet have said sufficient to convince the advocates of the volcanic theory that *I* am right, a few words more would, I think, suffice to show that *they* are wrong. For instance, they maintain that the sea once covered the entire globe; that its volume is nevertheless undiminished, being merely forced into new ocean-beds by the *volcanic* upheaving of the dry land—mountain ranges, islands, continents.

Now there are many thousand miles of dry land evidently formed of the debris of past generations of the ocean's inhabitants. These derived their nourishment, bulk, and structure, either directly or indirectly, from the ocean. Its waters, the matters it held in solution, or the animal and vegetable tribes it nourished, were converted into their own substance; and thus, at their death, added, in the shape of shell, marl, or other matters, to the solid strata of the earth. How, then, could the ocean volume remain undiminished? Might not the ocean as easily recede, as the most stupendous mountains be upreared?

We all acknowledge that the coal formations are composed of the vegetable kingdom of former worlds: thus, where the lowest coal measures are now found, there the surface of the earth once was. Of what, then, are the superincumbent strata composed, if not of the subsequent animal and vegetable kingdoms—the chemical laboratories employed by the Almighty Architect to absorb and fix the vapour and waters of the atmosphere and ocean?

Should this disclosure of my ideas of creation, offered in acknowledgment of the compliment you have paid me by inserting my essays, inspire you with additional confidence in their correctness, it will be a source of pleasure to, Sir, your most obedient servant,

CHAS. MORTON.

ON A FOSSIL PINE-FOREST AT KURRUR-KURRAN, IN THE INLET OF AWAABA, ON THE EASTERN COAST OF AUSTRALIA. By the Rev. W. B. CLARKE, A.M., F.G.S. (Abstract of a paper read before the Geological Society of London, on the 22d February, 1843.)

Awaaba is one of those inlets which occur at frequent intervals along the eastern coast of New South Wales, and which, from their sea-

entrance being usually narrow and blocked up with drifted sands, are by the Colonists termed "lakes." Awaaba is called Lake Macquarie, and is the largest of the inlets of that description between Port Stephens and Broken Bay. Its sea-entrance lies fourteen miles to the south of the mouth of the Hunter River, nearly in 33 deg. South latitude.

This inlet occupies a portion of that formation of conglomerate and sandstone, with subordinate beds of lignite and coal, which extends from the Hunter River southwards towards Brisbane Water. The lignite constitutes a considerable part of the Australian coal. This formation, owing to its beds along the shores of the inlet being placed horizontally, and being divided by nearly vertical joints, gives rise to regular lines of coast, both in a longitudinal and transverse direction. It forms along the coast a low range, which, except at the entrance, divides the lake from the sea. Within the lake a series of extensive bays, bounded to the water's edge by steep cliffs, run out, like fingers, far up into the country. The water of the inlet is, for the most part, very deep. On the western side of the lake, nearly opposite its sea-entrance, a promontory, bounded on either side by a bay, is formed by the Tirabeenba mountain, which stretches from the S.E. to the N.W., and, in the latter direction, ends abruptly in a lofty but not very precipitous escarpment: this sudden termination is occasioned by a fault. This mountain range then turns to the W., and afterwards to the S.W.; between it and the next range a wide valley intervenes.

The north-eastern flank of the north-western extremity of this range swells out into a hill of low elevation, from the base of which to the water's edge a flat extends; the flat is about fifty yards broad, and is, in point of level, within a foot of the surface of the water; it continues along the base of the slope for the space of about half a mile, and is called by the aborigines Kurrur-kurrân. To the south and west of this flat, the slopes of the mountain come down to the margin of the lake. The surface of the flat is composed of black sandy vegetable mould, and of detritus thickly interspersed with the roots of plants and grasses; trees of large growth, which are principally eucalypti and casuarinæ, together with some others of smaller dimensions, stand at intervals upon it, and grow even close to the water. Beneath the alluvial matter the rock occurs *in situ*: this is a sandstone which is, for the most part, of a compact and semi-crystalline texture, approaching to chert; its strata run out to some distance, at a small depth below the surface of the water, and render the lake in that part very shallow.

Throughout the whole of the alluvial flat, stumps and stools of fossilised trees are seen standing out of the ground; and one can form no better notion of their aspect, than by imagining what the appearance of the existing living forests would be if the trees were all cut down to a certain level. In the lake, also, where it adjoins the flat, to the distance of from 80 to 200 feet from the shore, numerous points are seen, like those of a reef of rocks, just peeping above the surface of the water; these points are the fossilised stools and stumps of trees, similar to those which are found on shore. The greater part of these stems, both of those on land and in water, stand vertically: many of

those on shore have remains of their roots in the sandstone rock beneath the alluvial matter; and of those which stand in the water, one, at the distance of three feet from the shore, has portions of its roots imbedded in the sandstone on which it rests. The rock immediately round the roots is not of so harsh a texture as it is in other parts; in it, in the neighbourhood of the roots which are in the water, there appear numerous white spots, which give the stone a mottled appearance: this arises from a multitude of small cavities which contain powdery siliceous matter, similar to what is often found in the cavities of chalk flints. On the shore, the surface of the rock near the stems is worn into a number of little holes, which are owing to the decay and removal of this powder. Mr. Clarke sees no other explanation of these specks, than that they mark the situation of the fibres which proceeded from the roots. The roots of the trees are in some instances surrounded by an accumulation of sandy rock, which forms a mound of a higher level than the rest of the stratum. The roots do not descend, so far as has been ascertained, very far into the substance of the rock, nor is there any appearance of a dirt-bed. The stools stand from two to three feet above the surface of the ground, and vary from two to four feet in diameter; but one in the lake is at least four feet above the level of the water, and five or six feet in diameter. In several of the stumps, from 60 to 120 concentric rings of growth may be counted; a few of the stools are hollow in the centre, but others are solid throughout: the wood appears to be coniferous. Veins of chalcedony traverse the substance of the trunks between the concentric rings, and also in the direction of the radial lines.

Many of the stems at Kurrur-kurrân have the bark adhering firmly to the trunk, and the bark in one instance was of the thickness of three inches. Its appearance in one or two cases is such as to show that it had been partly torn from the tree while yet standing, as if it had been broken down, and the bark had been rent by the fall.

The colour of the substance of the stems within varies from a greyish white to a clouded grey; but their surfaces, when exposed to the air, have become yellowish by weathering: many are overgrown by lichens, and have then exactly the appearance of the stumps of recent trees. The upper extremities of the fossil stumps present clean horizontal sections, which shows that they were not broken off while recent, since no mode of fracturing recent pinewood could have occasioned such neat, plain, and parallel sections as the summits of these stumps exhibit.

In a fragment of the sandstone from the base of one of the fossil stumps, the silicified impression of part of the leaf of a *Glossopteris* was found.

Immediately below the flinty stratum in which the trees are found, is a bed of lignite; above the level at which the trees occur, there are found imbedded in the sandstones and conglomerates, immense quantities of broken fragments of trees, apparently stripped of their boughs and branches. These fragments are generally divested of their bark, and appear to have been drifted.

Fossil trees are found in this formation at other places, and sometimes nearly at the same level above the sea as at Kurrur-kurrân; they

occur in sandstone similar to that of Kurrur-kurrân, at the southern extremity of the Tirabeenba mountain, immediately above and below a bed of lignite. At the spot referred to, pits have very recently been opened for working the lignite, at the level of about four feet above the surface of the lake. At the south head of Reid's Mistake, which is the name for the sea-entrance to the inlet of Awaaba, similar beds of sandstone occur; and these are traversed vertically by the trunks of trees, while other trees lie horizontally in the same beds. Lines of division, which appear to be owing to the contraction of the whole mass, intersect both the trees and their matrix: these trees are found at a somewhat higher level than the sea. At nearly the same level in Nirritinba (or Mutton-bird Island), off the entrance to Awaaba, large stools and stems of trees occur in conglomerate, which conglomerate reposes on beds of lignite. Fossil trees are also found in conglomerate reposing on lignite on the coast north of the entrance to Awaaba, at Redhead, at Newcastle, and at Nobby's Island, off the mouth of the Hunter River. At Nobby's Island, and under the Beacon Cliff, the trees lie in a pebbly grit, passing into conglomerate, and are mineralised by hydrate of iron; they are from 10 to 150 feet long. At none of the above places, however, do the trees occur in such profusion as at Kurrur-kurrân.

Fragments of roots and of the boughs of trees, divested of their bark, are found at Munniwarree, Wollongong, and Mulibinba, imbedded in beds of sandstone at a higher level than the beds which contain the fossil trees. Similar fragments are found spread over the surface at Wollon Hills, at Merton, at Holworthy Downs, Gummum, &c., and elsewhere in the Colony: it is probable, therefore, that the bed of sandstone containing trees in a vertical position, which is found nearly at the same level above the sea at Kurrur-kurrân and the other places above mentioned, is the true geological position of those ancient forests from which the enormous quantities of fragments of wood which occur, either spread over the surface or imbedded in the sandstones above and below the lignite, have been derived.

The sandstones of this formation, and in this vicinity, have been powerfully affected by the action of intrusive rocks; they are traversed at Nobby's Island and on the coast of Newcastle by green-stone dykes, having a S.E. and N.W. direction. The author refers to the "Voyage" of Flinders, p. 131, for an account of mineralised fossil wood found in Bass's Straits, at Preservation Island, which is composed of granite and schist, traversed by granite veins and trap dykes. He also refers to the "Tasmanian Journal," vol. i. p. 27, for an account, by the surgeon of H.M.S. *Erebus*, Dr. M'Cormick, of silicified wood found in association with trap rocks in Kerguelen's Land; and to the same volume, p. 24, for an account by Dr. T. D. Hoker, assistant-surgeon to H.M.S. *Erebus*, of fossil wood found at Macquarie Plains, in Tasmania.

The author infers, from the present position of the fossil trees at Kurrur-kurrân, that the land must have been alternately depressed and elevated. He makes mention, in the course of his paper, of two beds of lignite, one above the bed of fossil trees and one below it; but he does not describe the relative position and distance of these two beds.

EDITOR'S NOTE-BOOK.

COBURG, CANADA.—As a necessary groundwork for suggestions relating to internal improvement, I propose to show the increase of this District, in population and productions, premising that I fear these tables will have little interest for the generality of your readers. I take the District as a whole, rather than each separate Township, because all statistical returns arrive more near the truth when general, inaccuracies nearly balancing on each side.

1. *Population*.—In 1803, the persons assessed in the whole District amounted to 253; in 1819, the population was 5099, being an increase in 16 years of 4,846, or about 300 per annum; in 1825 it had reached 9,966; in 1830, 14,850; in 1835, 30,245; in 1840, 42,996; being an increase in 16 years of 33,504, or above 2000 a year: the greatest increase was in 1832 and 1833; in the former it was 27, and in the latter 21½ per cent. In 1840 the District was divided, Newcastle containing two-thirds of the population, or 28,000, and Colborne one-third, or 14,000. In 1842 a census was taken, and the District of Newcastle, as now constituted, was found to contain 31,015, being an increase of about 10 5-7 per cent. In 1845, I find from the most accurate inquiries, that the population is above 36,000. The population in 1842 may be classed as follows:—

	Males.	Females.
Under five years	3361	3422
Between five and fourteen	4068	3435
Over fourteen	9361	7368
Total	16790	14225

Of the males above fourteen, 5314 were married, and 4047 unmarried. Of the females, married 4819; unmarried, 2549.

	Males.	Females.
Deaf and dumb	8	10—18, or 1 in 1728
Blind	7	4—11, or 1 in 2819
Idiots	7	5—12, or 1 in 2584
Lunatics	2	7—9, or 1 in 3446

Coloured People.—Males 126, females 21, children 18.

Servants.—Male farm servants, 341; male private servants, 176; female servants, 401. Subsisting on alms, 17.

The persons liable to assessment in 1841, were 6186.

Elective Franchise.—The number of votes polled in 1844, were, in Northumberland, 1092; in the 6 Townships which belong to the County of Durham, 1122; total, 2214; allowing therefore for the Peninsula of Newcastle, and the Township of Alnwick, who were excluded by the omission in the Union Bill, and for those who did not vote, the number may be set down at something near 3000 persons entitled to vote, or one-sixth of the population.

National Origin.—England, 4640; Ireland, 5986; Scotland, 2255; Continent of Europe, 83; Canadians, (French) 322; Canadians, (British) 14381; United States, 2308; Aliens, 320; total, 30,295; leaving 720 not accounted for.

Religion.—The returns under this head, made by the assessors, can never be relied upon, by reason of a natural unwillingness to give information, as also from the fact that the religion of the family is generally taken from that of the head, whereas I have, in many instances, found a family divided into as many

sects as there were persons in it; it will also be perceived that the return leaves no less than 3000 persons unaccounted for. Church of England, 9233; Church of Scotland, 4100; Church of Rome, 2569; British Wesleyan Methodists, 2279; Canadian Methodists, 2362; Episcopal Methodists, 1367; other Methodists, 602; Presbyterians not connected with the Church of Scotland, 2194; Congregationalists, 262; Baptists, 863; Lutherans, 48; Quakers, 226; Mormons, 76; other denominations, 1823; total, 28,004.

- *Lands*.—In 1803 the lands returned in the whole District were, uncultivated, 63,661½ acres; cultivated, 37,48½. In 1841, there were in the Colborne District, of the former, 243,511; of the latter, 48,225½. In Newcastle, 337,031 acres uncultivated, and 158,173½ cultivated.

Houses.—In 1803, 22 in the whole District; in 1825, 425; in 1842, in Newcastle, inhabited, 4570; vacant, 45; building, 36. The above is exclusive of log shanties, which, in the out settlements, form the majority of the residences of even the most respectable settlers.

Education.—Diocesan Institute, (Coburg) 1; College, (Coburg) 1; District School, (Coburg) 1; Manual Labour School, (Haldimand) 1; Common Schools, 43; Private Schools for Boys, 3; for Girls, 4; Boys attending Common Schools, 663; Girls, 450; average attendance at Diocesan Institute, 15; Students at College, 30; at District School, 30; at private Schools, 35 each. There are two Mechanics' Institutes, and one Lending Library.

Towns, &c.—Two incorporated Towns, Coburg and Port Hope; Harbours, Wharves, and Landing-places, 8; Villages defined, 12; Post Offices, 15; Protestant Episcopal Churches, 12; building, 3; Clergymen of the Church of England, 7; Scotland, 4; different places of worship, 27.

Trade, &c.—Taverns in 1803, 2; in 1842, 68; in 1845, in the present District of Newcastle, 103: in 1803, there were 2 Grist Mills and 6 Saw Mills; in 1842, there were 34 of the former, and 78 of the latter; Steam Mills, 2; Oat Mills, 5; Barley Mills 5; Fulling Mills, 2; Woollen Factory, 1; Carding Mills, 10; Distilleries, 19; Breweries, 5; Tanneries, 16; Potash Factories, 32.

Produce.—The following estimates, taken from the returns for 1841, are below the actual average.

Newcastle District.		£	s.	d.
Wheat 249,257 bushels, at 4s.	•	49,851	8	0
Barley, 50,529 " 1s. 10½		4,737	1	10½
Rye, 2,250 " 2s. 6d.		281	5	0
Oats, 387,351 " 1s. 3d.		24,209	8	9
Peas, 81,099 " 2s. 3d.		9,123	12	9
I. Corn, 78,440 " 2s. 6d.		9,805	0	0
B. Wheat, 16,520 " 2s. 6d.		2,065	0	0
Potatoes, 623,202 " 1s. 3d.		38,950	2	6
Maple Sugar, 295,832 lbs. 6d.		7,395	16	0
Wool, 79,426½ lbs. 1s. 3d.		4,964	3	1½
Neat Cattle, 31,662 lbs. £4 10s.		142,479	0	0
Horses, 6,870, £15		103,050	0	0
Sheep, 37,224 7s. 6d.		13,959	0	0
Hogs, 29,283, 15s.		21,962	5	0
Fuller Cloth, 34,806½ yds. 4s.		6,961	6	0
Linen do. 11,760 " 2s.		1,176	0	0
Flannel, 40,296½ " 2s. 6d.		5,037	1	3
Beehives, 1200, £1 12s. 6d.		1,950	0	0
		447,957	10	3

Allowing the produce of the Colborne District to be one-half the above, which it certainly is, we have in the above articles an amount of produce equal to nearly £700,000. Now this is exclusive of Lumber, Staves, Potash, Whiskey, and other minor articles. Of the former, upwards of 5 million feet left this District the last year, which at 5d. a foot, (a fair average, as a raft was actually sold at the Trent

for 6d.) we have to add to the above, for this item, £104,083 6s. 8d.; and were proper facilities allowed for transport from the interior, the amount of staves and sawed lumber exported would be enormous.

The value of merchandize imported into Coburg from the States, during the last year, was £13,710, and of that from other quarters, fell little short of £40,000; when to this we add the imports at other places, an idea may be formed of the advanced state of our trade, and the necessity which exists, of devising means to convey our productions to the market of Montreal.

I am, &c.

W. C.

Cobourg, September 15, 1845.

A NEGRO IMPROVISATORE.—Going along the beach at Bridgetown, when the tide was coming in, I perceived numbers of black fellows, and both women and children, nearly naked to the waist; it only cost me a wet foot to see their occupation, which was that of catching the flying fish, for which they have nets cast, and earn a precarious subsistence by disposing of them at one penny each. One fellow in particular seemed more in humour than the rest, and ever and anon, as a mass of water washed his net, he sung,—

Flying fish---flying fish, come he in de net,
I selly to the buckra man, and money I will get.
Chucky, chucky, chuck.

Buckra have money, but he take de yellow Jack,
And den he cry for doctor, as he lies upon he back;
Buckra doctor give he physic---but if he send in time,
De Nigger cure him well---by de syrup and de lime.
Chucky, chucky, chuck.

I lub Miss Sarah Jane, well---sho fry de flyin fish---
She put de fat upon de pan, and chillys on de fish;---
She sell them all, de large and small, in every house in town.
I lub Miss Sarah Jane, and I'll buy she a nice gown.
Chucky, chucky, chuck.

On perceiving me, the song was ceased, while the broad grin with which he ended his ditty, and the evident satisfaction which the gown for Miss Sarah Jane, the vender of his commodity, seemed to give him, made me laugh until my sides ached. The black scoundrel, not at all discomposed, laughed more heartily than myself.—*Letters from the West Indies.*

REVIEWS.

* *Long Engagements ; a Tale of the Afghan Rebellion.* pp. 320. London : Chapman, & Hall.

THIS is one of Messrs. Chapman and Hall's monthly series, and the work has a peculiar interest at the present time, exclusive of its own merits, from the recent war in the Punjaub.

The author brings to the execution of his task, not only the pen of an experienced and gifted writer, but a personal acquaintance with the scenes and incidents which he describes, gained by a residence in the East, which gives a vividness and truth to his pictures and descriptions, usually wanting in works of fiction. This can hardly, however, be considered as a work of fiction, since the aim of the author has been to connect public events with a tale of private life ; to personify characters, many of whom we cannot believe to be mere creations of the fancy. The original of the good, amiable, yet eccentric Dr. Winter, we feel sure exists in Calcutta, and the same will apply to several other characters.

We happen to know the author, who in this instance, as in a former work descriptive of Indian life, "*Peregrine Pulteney*," has with most modest diffidence withheld his name ; although we can see no reason for this course, since both works are well calculated to add to his literary laurels. We recognise in him an old contributor to our pages, who, as the editor of the *Calcutta Quarterly Review*, and of the leading daily paper of Calcutta, has acquired a store of profound information, which we hope to see ushered before the public, and it cannot fail to secure the same popularity as his former works.

We might almost apply to himself the description of Herbert Grey, from his own pages.

He was a sensible man—a well-read man—a travelled man. Few were better acquainted with the history, the geography, the national characteristics of all the countries of the East. Of the war in Afghanistan—of its probable consequences—of the position of the British army in that perilous country—he had, in common with all intelligent men in India, thought much—thought deeply. He knew too much of the national character, of the political institutions, the moral tone, and the religious feelings of the people.

We will not attempt to analyse the framework or incidents of the story, leaving the reader (on our strong recommendation) to consult the book himself, feeling assured that he will not leave it till he has arrived at the conclusion, and has taken as deep an interest in the various characters—the excellent Herbert Grey, the unfortunate Arthur Carrington—the two sisters Adela and Mary, so perfectly opposite in character and sentiment—the kind and estimable Mr. and Mrs. Balfour, and the other personages of the tale, as we have done.

The author embodies many sound views of Indian policy in the sentiments he puts into the mouths of his characters, and also shows, by his style, what he has a just appreciation of the sublime and beautiful in nature. What can be more sketchy and attractive than the following description of Calcutta ?

THE CITY OF PALACES.

IT was the beginning of the cold season in Calcutta—for even in Calcutta there is a "cold season"—a season when the rays of the sun are not much more scorching than in the height of our English dog-days ; when to face the meridian glare, and to brave the meridian sun, is not positive destruction ; and when at morning and evening-tide the outer air is more than cool—a season when physical exertion is always possible, and often pleasant—when a brisk walk or a hard gallop is not necessarily productive

of extreme exhaustion—when men can wear broad-cloth, and women silk ; and a small fire in a large room is sometimes almost bearable.

It was the beginning of the cold season in Calcutta—the early part of November ; that pleasant period of abundant hope, when the great heart of European society in India begins once again to beat with renewed vigour, after months of sluggish circulation, almost of “suspended life ; when the frame, after a long sleep of exhaustion, begins again to show symptoms of vital energy ; and hopes and wishes,

“ ——— long subdued,
Subdued and cherished long,”

again become operative in the breasts of men, and gentler womankind ; and some are full of thoughts of the coming voyage *home* ; some from that home are looking for the return of wives too long absent, or daughters reared beneath strangers' eyes, or sons who, since their earliest childhood, have known their parents only by name ; some are stirred by thoughts of another mould—thoughts of impending official changes—of lucrative situations, and honourable posts, about to be vacated and re-filled—of the larger loaf or the heavier fish about to be grasped by the eager hand, long stretched out in expectancy ; some flutter with hopes, not less active, after their kind—hopes of a season of cold-weather gaiety ; balls, and concerts, and pic-nics, varying the perennial dinner-parties ; and visions, floating before soft eyes, of those magnificent investments of velvets, silks, satins, and military multifarious, about to fill the long saloons of the huge commission-houses which present to the dwellers in the City of Palaces, the choicest produce of London and of Paris. Many, and very varied, the hopes with which the heart of society is stirred at this season of transition—of going out and of coming in—of constant metempsychosis ; many and varied these feelings, but to all it is a season of hope, for if there be nothing else to be looked for, there is, at all events, a mitigation, if not a cessation, of the destroying heat, which, during eight months of the year, converts life into bare existence.

It was an evening in the first week of November. The setting sun, just touching the horizon, had thrown into deep shadow the western bank of the Hooghly river. The evening was cool, though the day had been sultry for that season of the year, there were signs in the chief streets of Calcutta, and on the roads which intersect the wide plain before it, that the business of the day was done. The houses of the European inhabitants had been everywhere unclosed, the heavy Venetian doors and the lofty glass windows had been thrown open, and the outer blinds of the verandahs drawn up, to give admittance to the evening breeze ; and from these verandahs, now become pleasant places of resort, might be seen everywhere a stream of life pouring out of that part of the great city, in which private business and public affairs are transacted during the day. Humble native writers and other underlings, with their white turbans, and dusk faces, and flowing drapery, were wending homewards on foot ; fat *sircars*, or native agents and brokers, were to be seen, through the open doors of their palanquins, borne on the shoulders of four slight, nearly-naked bearers ; subordinate Government officers, and mercantile assistants, were creaking on in little carriages, resembling wheeled palanquins, drawn by a single pony, towards their homes in the outskirts of the town ; whilst the well-groomed Arab, or the stylish cabriolet, or the capacious pilentum, with its two bright well-harnessed Cape horses, and its three liveried attendants, bore to their mansions in wide Chowringhee, the well-paid civilian or staff-officer, or wealthy merchant, to prepare for the evening drive. The work of the day was done. The evening had brought rest to all, enjoyment to many. Calcutta was a stir---abroad again. Carriages of every fashion, great and small, open and shut, of great pretension and of no pretension, were streaming along all the thoroughfares ; and forth from the wide balconies of Chowringhee, many a gentle dame, in shawl and bonnet, clad for her daily drive---the only exercise of the day---looked forth in expectation of the return from office of her lord and master.

There are many other extracts full of intense and harrowing interest, such as the account of the beleaguered—of the last night at Caubul—the fearful and perilous march through the dreadful snow, which we could most gladly have given had our space permitted. In conclusion, we confidently assert, that “Long Engagements” will assuredly find a place in almost every private family circle, or public library, as well for the prominence and interest of the events on which the tale is founded, as for the popular and pleasing style in which the narrative has been treated. Such works as these are well calculated to ensure the permanent success of Messrs. Chapman & Hall's monthly series, and cannot fail to pass through many editions.

The Commercial Review of the South-West, No. 1. New Orleans: J. D. B. de Bow, Editor and Proprietor.

OUR COLONIAL MAGAZINE seems to be popular even in the "Crescent City;" for the editor, on *starting* this periodical with the present year, straightway forwards us a copy and solicits an exchange, which we shall be most happy to afford. The publication, as far as we can judge from this first number, is a useful and carefully-arranged one. There are some excellent articles on commerce, statistics, agriculture, and finance, especially one on Louisiana sugar, which we may possibly advert to hereafter. But that which possesses the most current interest, is a paper "On the Home and Foreign Grain Market," which contains some useful figures, as to the produce and trade of the United States, which will be especially interesting after the recent debate on the Corn Laws. In another portion of this number we have gone at length into the production of maize. The passage in the "Review" from which we are about to quote, treats of the past trade, exhibits its future prospects, and the home supplies by which it must be maintained.

We have the following table of production:—

	1840.	1842.	1843.	1844.
Wheat, bush.	84,822,272	102,317,344	100,310,856	95,607,000
Barley . . .	4,161,504	3,871,622	3,230,721	3,627,000
Oats	123,071,341	150,833,607	145,929,666	172,247,000
Rye	18,645,567	22,762,952	24,889,281	26,450,000
Buckwheat . .	7,291,743	2,483,480	7,959,410	9,710,000
I. Corn . . .	377,531,875	441,829,246	496,618,305	427,953,000

For the year 1845, we have not the most reliable information; but the general impression from the best sources is, that the wheat crop will reach the unprecedented yield of 125,000,000 bushels. The state of Michigan alone, with a population of but 400,000, yielding 7,000,000 bushels. Deducting for home consumption 70,000,000 bushels, which, with high prices, will hardly be exceeded, and for seed there will remain for exportation upwards of 40,000,000 bushels wheat. The average exportation of Indian corn for the last fourteen years has been 1,500,000 annually, and we cannot have less for the same purpose the present year.

The following table will show the amount of grain which has been exported from our country in the past, and the sources to which it was attracted.

Account of the quantities of Flour and Grain exported from the United States, from October 1st, 1821, to September 30th 1831, with the prices of Flour at Philadelphia, and of Wheat and Indian Corn at New York.

Years.	Wheat flour.	Rye flour.	Corn meal.	Wheat.	Indian corn.	Price of wheat flour per barrel at Philadelphia.	Price of wheat per bushel at New York.	Price of Indian corn per bushel at New York.
	bbls.	bbls.	bbls.	bush.	bush.	D c.	D c.	D c.
1831	1805205	19049	204206	405384	566761	- -	1 19	0 70
1830	1225881	26298	145301	45289	444190	4 98	0 98	0 57
1829	837385	34191	173775	4007	897656	6 35	1 33	0 58
1828	860809	22214	174639	8906	704902	5 60	1 8	0 53
1827	863491	13345	131041	22182	978664	5 23	0 97	0 65
1826	857820	14472	158625	45166	505381	4 65	0 90	0 79
1825	813906	29545	137285	17960	869644	5 10	1 4	0 56
1824	996792	31879	152723	20373	779297	5 62	1 15	0 47
1823	756702	25665	141501	4272	749034	6 82	1 5	0 53
1822	827865	19971	148288	4418	509098	6 58	0 90	0 49
1821	1056119	23523	131669	25812	607277	4 78	0 89	0 53

From 1831 to 1843, we have the following, furnished in one of the late numbers of *Hunt's Merchants' Magazine* :---

Years	ENGLAND.		BR. AMERICAN COLONIES.		CUBA.	
	Bush. wheat.	Bbls. flour.	Bush. wheat.	Bbls. flour.	Bush. wheat.	Bls. flr.
1831 . . .	362,153	865,744	12,505	150,795	...	97,999
1832 . . .	50,050	95,868	20,777	135,640	...	98,248
1833 . . .	...	21,707	31,421	168,127	...	119,197
1834 . . .	...	19,487	23,247	134,975	...	102,837
1835 . . .	...	5,376	...	76,405	...	93,511
1836 . . .	...	161	2,082	42,300	...	92,390
1837 . . .	...	...	...	23,316	...	55,537
1838 . . .	...	8,295	6,076	29,591	...	79,681
1839 . . .	6,033	167,582	72,113	119,407	...	90,459
1840 . . .	607,108	605,778	1,066,601	432,356	788	69,819
1841 . . .	119,854	205,144	695,389	877,806	...	69,387
1842 . . .	143,330	204,896	655,503	369,048	4,179	46,846
1843 . . .	...	14,214	293,842	190,322	...	29,437
Average .	99,502	170,327	221,498	175,391	382	80,411

Years.	Brazil.		Brit. West Indies.		Tot. Ex. to all For. mchts.	
	Bush. wheat.	Bbls. flour.	Bush. wheat.	Bbls. flour.	Bush. wheat.	Bls. flr.
1831	198,870	...	100,382	408,445	1,803,529
1832	103,289	...	100,167	83,304	864,919
1833	259,536	...	100,057	32,221	955,768
1834	152,603	...	95,816	36,948	835,352
1835	161,460	...	118,307	47,762	779,396
1836	118,470	2,062	70,305	2,062	505,400
1837	60,480	...	68,323	17,303	318,719
1838	125,275	137	75,524	6,291	448,161
1839	177,337	14,129	139,340	96,325	923,151
1840	197,823	33,743	232,329	1,720,860	1,897,501
1841 . . .	16,457	282,406	41,116	246,465	868,585	1,515,817
1842	189,317	14,920	237,478	817,958	1,283,602
1843	192,454	17,399	170,577	311,685	841,474
Average .	1,266	170,716	9,500	135,005	342,709	997,771

On the Analysis of the Hop, and the Nature of the Manures beneficial to its Growth. By J. C. Nesbit, F.G.S., &c. London: Longman & Co.

MR. NESBIT is favourably known to the public as a scientific and practical lecturer on agricultural chemistry, and this little treatise is calculated to add to his reputation. Hops, we believe, may be grown in several of our Colonies: we, at least, know of their cultivation in Canada, Van Diemen's Land, and New Zealand, where good beer of Colonial manufacture is now made. From the results of the analyses given by Mr. Nesbit, it appears that saltpetre and pearlash are the manures best adapted, from their price, to furnish the potash, which forms the largest portion of the composition of the hop; and our author strongly deprecates the removal of the bine, &c. from the ground. This is the great fault of our tropical cultivation. The trash, stalk, &c. of the sugar-cane, instead of being returned to the soil, are invariably consumed in fuel; thereby entailing the necessity for a much larger amount of extraneous manure than would else be required for its profitable culture.

A more serious consideration of the principles of agricultural chemistry, will effect much towards cheapening the cost of agricultural production in our Colonies.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Hunt's Merchants' Magazine.

Knight's Political Dictionary. Parts x. & xi.

Murray's Colonial Library. Parts xxx. & xxxi.

A Residence in the Marquesas.

COLONIAL INTELLIGENCE.

INDIA.

THE Indian mail has brought most important intelligence from our British Possessions in the East, which have, however, been so fully detailed in the daily papers and extraordinary gazettes, that we must content ourselves with a brief summary. Our dates are from Calcutta January 9, Madras 13, Delhi 7, Singapore 9, and Bombay the 17th January.

We are once more in the midst of war, and on the eve of mighty conquests. One of the most bloody and severe—would we could add, brilliant, and successful—actions has been fought by our troops in which we were engaged since the foundations of our empire have been laid in India. The increasing troubles in the Punjaub had occasioned the accumulation of a heavy mass of troops on our north-west frontier; the Governor-General, determined, apparently, to avoid advance, was anxious for once honestly to carry out the peaceful and anti-aggressive policy we so constantly professed and so rarely practised. The invasion of our territories by the enemy was so eminently insane, so certain to ensure their own destruction, that however disorderly marauders or a rabble soldiery might annoy us, inconvenience beyond this was unlooked for, prepared as we were to avenge it, and to protect ourselves against it. A large body of Sikh troops, about 60,000, having approached Ferozepore on the 15th, the division, 7,000 strong, under Major-Gen. Sir John Littler, marched out to protect the city. Several feints were made, but no collision occurred. On the 17th the enemy moved off to intercept the army under the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief, now hurrying forward at the rate of thirty miles a day, to support General Littler. A severe encounter took place near

Moodkee, twenty-two miles from Ferozepore, on the 18th, and the battle was continued with much obstinacy and various results on the 21st and 22nd. Betwixt the evening of the 21st and morning of the 22nd the enemy's entrenched camp, defended by 60,000 men, and 70 pieces of artillery, was captured, and in the course of these various operations no fewer than 90 guns fell into our hands. Both armies continued for the next eight days inactive, reinforcements arriving rapidly for both, when, about the 29th, the Sikhs are reported to have recrossed the Sutlej. The fighting seems to have been awfully severe, and the loss heavy almost beyond precedent. Above 100 British officers have been wounded, and 61 are killed; amongst these latter are Majors-General Sir Robert Sale and Sir John M'Caskill, with considerably upwards of 3,000 men killed or wounded. Large masses of troops continue hurrying northward from the Bengal Upper Provinces, and Sir Charles Napier is in progress towards Sukkur, to the northward of which he will speedily have assembled under him an army of 14,000 to 15,000 men, to co-operate with the grand army under the Commander-in-Chief in a general scheme of operations against the Punjaub. The campaign will probably be a protracted and severe one; the results are beyond doubt. The country, from the Attock to the Sutlej, from Cashmere to Moultan, will be ours in four months if we desire it. There are reports of risings and disturbances in Upper Scinde, such as might have been expected on the descent of the Sikhs upon our territory.

The country is this year healthy, though the present is the period when sickness usually sets in. India generally is tranquil throughout. Various financial returns of importance have just been published. Lord Ellen-

borough, it appears, so far from diminishing our expenditure, in two years added four millions sterling to our debt, and the expenditure of 1844-45 exceeds the income by nearly two millions. Scinde costs a million beyond its returns. The booty captured at Hyderabad in 1843, amounting to above half a million, has been ordered to be divided amongst the troops. The share of Sir C. Napier amounts to about seventy thousand pounds. Great apprehensions are being entertained at Bombay of suffering for want of water, the fall of rain during the last monsoon having been unusually deficient.—*Bombay Times*.

The Sikh territory, on the left bank of the Sutlej, which, by the Governor-General's proclamation of the 13th instant, has been annexed to the British dominions, is estimated to yield an annual revenue of seven and a half lacs of rupees, or £75,000 sterling.—*Madras Athenæum*.

CHINA.

Our dates from Hongkong are to the 30th December.

In local affairs we notice the land sales first. On the 12th instant, 52 lots were put up to public competition, without any condition as to building in a certain time, as was the former custom. There was therefore an inducement held out to speculate, but the buyers showed no disposition to run the lots up, and they were chiefly purchased at a few shillings advance upon the upset price. Of 52 lots offered, 43 were sold, for the others there were no bidders. Very few Europeans attended the sale, and with the exception of three or four lots there was little competition. At the sale of December last year, the advance upon the upset price was 75 per cent.; this year it was barely 10 per cent. Since the sale, a wealthy native, who has been in the Colony from its earliest days, has brought all his property, consisting of 60 houses, into the market. The houses are in that part of the town chiefly occupied by Chinese shopkeepers, and were formerly considered of great value.

Mr. Layton, Vice-Consul at Ningpo, has been appointed Consul at Amoy. It is not His Excellency's intention to fill the vacancy at Ningpo until instructions are received from home. The whole of the Consulates, with the exception of that at Canton, require to be greatly reduced. The present expensive establishments are quite uncalled for, and are a hindrance to commerce rather than a protection.

Mr. Montgomery Martin's return to England, and some notes which appeared in a Bombay paper, said to have been written by him, have caused a good deal of discussion. The Government party are bitter against the ex-Treasurer, and have censured him strongly through the medium of the press. We are aware of Mr. Martin's visionary views regarding Chusan, and trust that he will not induce the Home Government to commit a breach of national faith by retaining that island. He may satisfy the Government that the Chinese have not kept faith with reference to the treaties of Sir Henry Pottinger. This is the common impression: but it is clear that the local Government is not blameless. Had it displayed greater energy, it might have compelled the Chinese to comply with all the terms of the treaty; but official attention appears to have been exclusively devoted to the framing of tyrannical ordinances, and the imposing of petty taxes which have injured the Colony, and not much benefited the revenue. Before Chusan is evacuated by the British troops, it would be advisable to have every reasonable demand complied with. It is disgraceful to British diplomacy, that Canton, but a few years ago at the mercy of a British army, should still be closed to foreigners, and the insult which was so long borne quietly by the servants of the East India Company be perpetuated, now that the Company has ceased to exist as a commercial monopoly. Perfect freedom of intercourse between the ports of China and Hongkong is another point to be insisted upon. It is certain that clearances are refused to *Native* vessels desirous of visiting this port for commercial purposes. Of this

there can be no doubt, as we believe that all the Native vessels that have entered this harbour have done so without passes, and are liable to be seized and confiscated. The impediments thrown in the way of commerce at Foo-chow-foo is another matter of grave importance, and one which has been too long neglected. Whether such arrangements can safely be intrusted to the present Plenipotentiary may be a matter of opinion in England. Here, it is the general impression that they cannot. In negotiating with the Chinese Government, the Foreign Envoy would require the fitness of Sir Henry Pottinger, with greater experience, and an intimate knowledge of the bearing of national commercial arrangements upon the trade, revenue, and shipping of his country.

The commercial reports by this mail continue unfavourable. Prices of cotton goods improved at Canton in the beginning of the month, but they have again receded with large stocks in the hands of importers. No reaction is looked for until after the Chinese holidays, which commence on the 26th of January.

SINGAPORE.—Our papers are to the 8th January.

Gambier Plantation Abandonment.—We are concerned to learn that, within the last few months, a great number of Gambier cultivators have quitted the Settlement, which cannot but affect this important branch of our exports. The number of Chinese who have abandoned Gambier culture at Singapore is stated to be more than 300; these have quitted the interior and emigrated to the neighbouring island of Johore, where, it would appear, they have obtained permission from the native chiefs to cultivate, without obstruction, this important article of commerce. It is not ten days ago that two large boats, with more than seventy Chinese labourers, quitted the Singapore River for the same destination, affording convincing proof of the demand for labour which exists at Johore.

The above circumstance eminently deserves the attention of the authorities, who owe it to our colonists to afford

them every security and assistance in their power; so that no injury may arise to the growth and manufacture of Gambier in the Settlement. Some cause must exist for the departure of the cultivators in question, which it would be desirable to ascertain with the view of correcting an evil which, if not checked at the onset, will prove very disadvantageous to the commercial interests and the advancement of the Colony.

We have made inquiries with the view of discovering to what source the departure of the Chinese cultivators is attributable. How far we have been successful, we leave others to determine whose means of obtaining information may be more complete than our own. In stating the result of our inquiries, we candidly confess that we are open to correction; since we merely record what we have been able with difficulty to ascertain: and although the cause we are about to state may not be sufficient in itself to account for the departure of the cultivators in question, it must obviously prove a great barrier to their continuing to remain here.

The injudicious practice which obtains at the Land Office in granting "cutting papers" must go a long way in driving cultivators of Gambier from the Settlement. For example, a squatter obtains permission to clear as much land as he possibly can; this is all very well, but the order does not define an extent beyond which no cutting should take place. The squatter clears as much land as the means at his disposal will allow, in the hope and expectation that the jungle contiguous to the cleared ground will be at his command for fuel—a supply of the latter, easy of access and adequate to the growth of Gambier plants, is indispensable to the culture and manufacture of Gambier. When the time for gathering the leaves arrives, another squatter (whether from motives of envy or malice we will not now determine) obtains a cutting paper, and commences clearing in close proximity to the already-formed Gambier plantation; obviously depriving the owner of the fuel he has reasonably calculated upon.

The established planter cannot of course eject the intruder from the land, since the latter possesses an equal right to it, in virtue of his cutting paper, which, as it specifies no limits, leaves him the disposer or destroyer of the crop of the industrious planter. The abandonment of several plantations in the interior, which in a short time would be fit for cutting, affords some criteria of the evils of the system of which we complain.

The advancement and prosperity of the Settlement are intimately connected with and depend on the progress made in cultivating the soil and bringing its products to perfection. It is, therefore, desirable to have the land cleared as speedily as possible; the best way to do this is to grant every encouragement and protection to cultivators. Instead of the present system, a better practice ought to be introduced, defining the boundaries to be included in a cutting paper, and effectually prevent a trespass on the fuel-land of the industrious planter. This might easily be effected by specifying the number of acres, as well as the direction, in every cutting paper granted.

It is well known, that, owing to the intrusion above noticed, many broils arise, which are not unfrequently followed by bloodshed; and as their occurrence takes place in the interior, their number and enormity are alike unknown to the police.

— AUSTRALASIA.

NEW SOUTH WALES. — We have Sydney papers to the 20th Sept., from Port Phillip to the 3rd, and also our regular files of those published at Maitland, Paramatta, Geelong, Portland Bay, &c.

An extensive good country has been found to the north of the Port Phillip road, in the South-east District. A number of sheep proprietors intend to remove to it after shearing-time. It is supposed that this country joins the Tatiarra country, which the natives state is three days' journey south-east of Moorunde. The Tatiarra natives are known to have visited stations at

Moorunde, at Lake Albert, and at the Glenelg, and at each place they have given similar accounts. A settler from the Glenelg, just arrived, mentions that he had penetrated to the borders of the Tatiarra country, which he describes as being about 160 miles north of Mount Gambier, and good country all the way. It is thus rendered more than ever probable, that from Mount Gambier to nearly the bend of the Murray, there is a continuous line of good country.

Manufactures of the Hunter River District.—Perhaps there is no healthier symptom attending the returning prosperity of the Colony than the continual improvements and additions that are being made to our local manufactures. There is perhaps no country in the world whose staple export is produced more steadily at a profit than the wool of New South Wales; but even in this article, we have seen a long depression in the home market reduce the price below a paying figure. Our tallow again is an article that from its uses is little subject to fluctuation; but still, we have now proof that the English market price will not be always remunerative when cattle rise in value in the Colony. In both articles the home market will from time to time fall below what will pay the Colonists at the prices at which they have bought sheep and cattle. And even if we were to change gradually our staple exports, still any one article would fluctuate occasionally. It is, therefore, to the number and variety of our exports that we must look for permanent commercial prosperity, that when any one, two, or three articles do not pay for a time, others may probably be yielding a good profit, and sustaining the credit of the Colony; that distress may only fall on a small portion of the community, not on the majority. We rejoice therefore to see the manufactures of the Hunter District steadily progressing, whether it be exhibited in tweed or in ale, in pottery or leather, in tobacco or wine, in soap or iron-works. For instance, porter and ale of excellent quality are now brewed in Maitland, and less and less of imported malt liquors are being

consumed. The Irrawang pottery is so good that the demand greatly exceeds what can be produced, from the paucity of good workmen; and Colonial fruits preserved in Irrawang stone jars are often taken for English. Tweed is improved so much, that it sells in Sydney to such an extent that the District market is often very inadequately supplied, though two establishments are in active operation. The tobacco manufactured in Maitland and the District is nearly all sold in Sydney, and the demand for it is gradually increasing. The growth of the vine is greatly extending, though but little wine has been yet brought into market; manifest improvement is however visible in what is brought forward. Leather and soap are produced to a great extent, and of excellent quality; but in both the manufacturers in Sydney are so numerous, that a very keen competition alone can keep their articles out of the District market: both manufactures are ripe for exporting largely. And so with iron, salt, and a variety of other articles "too numerous to mention." Improvements are progressing so rapidly that most can bear comparison with any produced elsewhere.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.—Our dates from this Province are to the 2nd October.

The papers are commenting on the unprotected state of the Colony, and recommending the augmentation of the military force, the erection of batteries at the Port and in Adelaide, and the enrolment of a Colonial Militia. The latter, after being duly disciplined, would be equal, as a local force, to the troops of the line.

A duty of 1s. per cwt. had been levied on all bark stripped from trees on Government land, intended for exportation—to be in force for two years.

Such is the ascertained extent of the leviathan copper lode in the North, that it is said two special surveys will not nearly embrace it; and Mr. Menge informs us that he could point out upwards of a hundred copper mines between the head of Spencer's Gulf and Gawler Town, there being here, what we never met with before, literal rocks of copper.—*S. A. Reg., Jan'y. 30.*

We have it upon good authority that our worthy fellow-Colonist Evelyn Sturt, Esq., is daily expected overland from Portland, with (report says) a herd of seven hundred fine cattle, well adapted for the yoke or the poke. The truly injudicious practice so often pointed out in this journal, and so obstinately persisted in, namely, that of breeding in and in, as well as overstocking the runs, has afforded our more generally experienced neighbours of the adjoining Colony many opportunities of disposing of their surplus stock, and thereby prejudicing, if not supplanting, our own graziers. It is a well-known fact that an intending buyer has been waiting some months for cattle of sufficient breed (to please him) as working oxen; and although we have (in point of numbers) more than sufficient to meet all the wants of the Colony, we shall find that upon the contemplated great enlargement of mining operations in the North, the demand for superior draught oxen will exceed the available supply.

We have great pleasure in laying before our readers the results of three analyses of the prevailing ores of the great mine. We are aware that the gentleman who has favoured us with the statement is possessed of perfect means of analysis, and has used the greatest care in the operations. They form a most valuable and important contribution to the shareholders, and we are only sorry that we are not at liberty to mention the analyst's name. Our friend mentions that the red oxide and green carbonate have also been found, which yield 66 per cent.

Analysis of the specimens of copper ore, from the lodes at Burra Creek:—

RESULTS OF ANALYSIS.				
Metallic Copper	...	...	...	49.95
Metallic iron	...	...	...	1.41
Arsenic acid	...	...	...	7.31
Insoluble	...	...	...	28.04
				86.71
Oxygen in combination	...	...	...	17.78
				99.49
Value	...	...	£37 2s. 3d.	
Metallic copper	...	...	...	59.44
Metallic iron	...	...	...	1.79
Arsenic acid	...	...	...	2.00
Insoluble	...	...	...	19.86
				82.09

Oxygen in combination	...	...	...	15'83
				98'92
Value	...	...	£44 3s. 3d.	
Metallic copper	...	...	...	55'23
Metallic iron	...	...	...	1'39
Arsenic acid	...	...	...	1'66
Insoluble	...	...	...	29'20
				85'48
Oxygen in combination				14'05

Value £39 10 9d. ---

Note 1—The value per ton is obtained on the assumption that the ores are of the same relative value as those from the Kapunda Mine, a sample of which, that yielded 53'50 per cent., was valued at £39 15s. per ton.

Note 2—The insoluble residue appears to be principally composed of antimony and silica. Another specimen analysed, yielded 45 per cent. of copper, and belonged to the variety termed the "grey copper ore," having sulphur in its composition. The varieties are different from the others previously found in this Colony, arsenic not having been met with before in copper ores by the analyser.—*South Australian*, 26th August.

NEW ZEALAND.—We have advices direct from Wellington to the 17th August, and from Nelson, via Adelaide, to the same date. Ninety-five passengers, and a full cargo of New Zealand produce, had arrived at Adelaide in the "Palmyra," from Nelson.

In the Southern Island, peace was not interrupted. The state of trade at Nelson was, however, exceedingly dull and dejected.

A rumour was rife at Nelson of a third engagement between the troops and Heki; but, although somewhat circumstantial, without confirmation.

It was reported that Heki was desirous of making overtures to the Government, to settle his differences without further hostilities; but before any step in such a course was taken, he was particularly anxious to be made acquainted with the treatment which he individually would be likely to receive at the hands of the British, if his followers laid down their arms.

After so many proofs of mal-administration, it was with much satisfaction the Colonists had learned that the recall of Governor Fitz Roy had been determined upon.

From the Harbour-Master's report, it appears that the number and tonnage of vessels that entered inwards and

cleared outwards at Wellington in the quarter ending the 5th July, 1845, was as follows:—

	Vessels.	Tons.
Entered inwards	47	2,196
Cleared outwards	44	1,971

MAURITIUS.

We have advices from this island to the 3d December. An Agricultural and Horticultural Society had been formed at Port Louis under the patronage of Lady Gomm, and the zeal and exertions of this Society, in conjunction with the Natural History Society, will, we hope, lead to the improvement of cultivation in the island. The culture of tea and vanilla, and the breeding of silk-worms, are proofs, and striking ones, of the intelligent efforts of the latter Society, and if they have not been crowned with more brilliant success, it is not to it that the fault is attributable, but rather to the scanty assistance afforded by the Local Government. The first public exhibition was to take place on the 24th January, when prizes were to be offered for the best mangoes, pine-apples, peaches, oranges, grapes, custard apples, figs, bananas, and other fruits, and for culinary vegetables and flowers.

Sugar Exports.—We published in our last Number an account of the export of sugar to the latest date, but there was a slight error in the addition. The figures should be—Total exported to 30th Sept., 1845, 3,840,487 lbs.

Sugar Exported.

Derwent, for London	634,037 lbs.
Nautilus, for London	1,020,030 "
Samarang, for London	165,608 "
Betsy Robertson, for Leith	409,619 "
Thomas Blyth, for London	848,539 "
Lady Emma, for the Cape	35,102 "
Ann, for Newcastle	719,097 "
Fleetwood, for Cork	749,774 "
Waverley, for London	1,125,319 "
Morning Star, for London	706,565 "
City of Sydney, for N. S. Wales	47,698 "
John Hullett, for London	658,657 "
Vibilia, for Leith	326,826 "
Acorn, for London	517,636 "
British Settler, for the Cape	58,823 "
Favourite, for Cork	767,301 "

Montefiores, for London .	798,571 lbs.
Eliza Leishman, for Glas-	
gow	732,903
Nimble, for the Cape . .	50,147
Stratford, for London . .	891,034
Essex, for London . . .	542,092
Pagoda, for London . . .	884,377
Queen, for London . . .	1,117,814
Tar, for London	765,992

Total to 31st Oct. 1845 18,417,068 lbs.
Against 17,142,211 lbs. last year at the same period.

The planters are complaining dreadfully of the indolence, &c. of the Coolies. It appears from official returns that out of 40,260 labourers employed, 7,565 were away from their work. The proposition to provide by an increase of export duty of one shilling upon sugar for the expenses of an increased immigration does not appear to be at all well received.

The Governor, apprehending a scarcity of rice, had recommended the cultivation of manioc. Six camels had been imported by a Mr. Joseph Dioré, from Muscat, for the use of his estates. The comparison of the camel with the mule is much in favour of the former, as regards the work each can perform. The camels of Mr. Dioré can carry, without being overloaded, a thousand pounds. Three mules and a cart are necessary to carry three thousand pounds; therefore, as camels cost much less than mules in the first outlay, as they require much less care and are fed much cheaper, as the expense of carts is not necessary, neither do the roads on the estates require to be so good as for mules, the difference of expense will be found to be very considerable.

Mr. Dioré has sent his camels to Pamplémousses; we shall pay attention to the work they do, so as to give an account of them to the public.

Let us add that we are sure that these animals can be easily procured and brought here, even in small vessels; the *Arpenteur*, the brig that brought those above mentioned, is only of ninety-five tons register. We consider there is no imprudence in informing our readers, as we have it from Mr. Dioré himself, that the price of a

camel does not exceed that of one large doukey, or the price of two camels is not equal to that of one mule. If it is found that they are adapted for the work that we require of them, it will be no small advantage to our Colonial shipping, especially as mules are obtained with so much difficulty, and are only brought here by European vessels.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

We have Cape Town papers to the 28th Dec., and those from Graham's Town to the 19th Dec., from which we proceed to make a few extracts:—

Thos. Butterworth C. Bayley had been appointed a member of the Legislative Council, in the room of H. Cloete, Esq.

Reverting to the many important occurrences that have taken place during the year now about to expire, we may congratulate our readers on such as are both immediate and prospective. Of the former kind we would enumerate,—1st, the settlement of the long-pending Natal question, and the incorporation of that new District with the Cape Colony,—2dly. the cessation of disturbances on the frontier, and the conclusion of highly-advantageous treaties with the principal chiefs located in that quarter.—3dly, the fortunate discovery of guano beds at Saldanha, St. Helena, and False Bays, which has told so well for the revenue of our Colony as to have mainly contributed to clear us from the balance of a heavy and long-standing debt.—4thly, the progress made in the formation of hard roads, long so much needed, and the actual completion of a portion of one line across the Cape Downs, extending 24 miles in length, the ceremony of opening which to the public took place on the 24th instant.

To such we have to add, of those the benefit from which may be regarded as somewhat remote:—1st, the lights respectively on Capes Agulhas and Reiceif, for the construction of the former of which the liberal subscription of the inhabitants and others, together with the assistance of the Local, and the munificence of the British Government,

have amply provided, and which works are now to be put immediately in hand.—2dly, and lastly, the total abolition of the Brazilian slave-trade on our shores (Afric's Magna Charta), backed as it is by the British trident, and introducing the blessings of independence and liberation from a foreign yoke, throughout the length and breadth of the land.—*Cape Shipping Gazette.*

Establishment of the District of Natal.
—His Honour Martin West, Esq., Lieut.-Governor; His Honour H. Cloete, Esq., J.L.D., Recorder; Lieut.-Col. Boys, 45th Reg., Senior Officer, Commanding H. M. Forces; Donald Moodie, Esq., Secretary to Government, Treasurer and Registrar of Deeds; Dr. Stanger, Surveyor-General; W. Field, Jr., Esq., Collector of Customs; Walter Harding, Esq., Crown Prosecutor. The five last-named officers form the Executive Council.

Trade and Navigation of the Cape for the Year ending 5th January, 1845, omitting the fractions of a pound.

Vessels Inwards.	Tonnage.	Outwards.	Tonnage.	Customs, Wharfrage, &c.	Total Imports.	Total Exports.
Cape Town	444	150515	145772	57044	620703	280886
Coastwise.....	133	21084	12053	...	...	...
Simon's Town.....	36	15322	14366	1171	5491	2652
Coastwise.....	5	774	1825	...	...	...
Port Elizabeth	43	11967	10935	10798	149183	...
Coastwise.....	55	7659	7619	...	...	...
Total Colony	553	177804	171073	69013	775377	433355
Coastwise.....	203	29317	30727	...	...	...
Grand Total	756	207321	201800	69013	775377	433355

In the above value of exports are not included articles shipped as stores to merchant vessels, or supplied to her Majesty's navy—the latter amounting in the year 1844 to £6,706 12s. 6d.

Annual Exports of Wool, from the Ports of Cape Town and Port Elizabeth, from 1833 to 1844 inclusive.

	Cape Town. lbs.	Port Elizabeth. lbs.	Total. lbs.
1833	73,324	39,753	113,077
1834	89,062	51,831	140,893
1835	136,020	79,148	215,868
1836	256,629	116,574	373,203
1837	227,833	123,991	351,824
1838	286,216	201,508	487,724
1839	377,649	208,338	585,987
1840	509,597	401,521	911,118
1841	536,079	479,828	1,015,907
1842	616,807	811,986	1,428,793
1843	534,377	1,220,380	1,754,757
1844	936,269	1,297,677	2,233,946

WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA. — The Militia, we are happy to say, is once more in a fair way of being placed on a respectable footing. The regiment of foot consists of 4,450 rank and file, of which 400 is apportioned to Kingston, with two companies of Artillery; the other parishes varying from 100 to 300 each, with companies of Artillery and troops of Horse, according to their respective size and population. The uniform is also restored, to consist of scarlet coats, with dark blue cuffs and caps, black stock, white trousers, with gaiters, and foraging cap, with white band. The proposed pay of 4s. a day to the privates when on parade duty has been negatived by a majority of 16 to 11; a measure of economy which we certainly think is somewhat injudicious, and especially inconsistent on the part of those who desired to make a present of nearly double the amount to the British Government for additional military subsistence.

We understand that a Company is in course of formation for the purpose of establishing a Sugar Manufactory on a large scale, to be erected in the parish of St. Thomas in the Vale, near the terminus at present proposed for the Great

Interior Railway. A more favourable site could certainly not be chosen, and we accordingly look forward with befitting anxiety for the full development of the scheme.

We may also mention that a very worthy and intelligent member of this community is at present engaged in projecting a Company for the very desirable object of cleaning the streets, yards, &c., and preparing manure for our agriculturists, according to the most approved methods adopted in the mother-country. We shall indeed be surprised if we are long without such an establishment.

We were in hopes, when reviewing, twelve months ago, the results of last year's agricultural operations, that long ere this lapse of time something would have been done, through the co-operation of the Government and the planters, towards establishing the labouring force of this Colony upon an efficient scale, rendering it available for the more ample cultivation of the estates. At that time the question of raising means for immigration purposes in this island had engaged the attention of capitalists at home, and was taken up with some show of spirit by the generality of our resident proprietors. Petitions from both parties were presented to the Legislative Council, and, even despite the counter-efforts made by two or three anti-immigration loan-mongers, everything appeared to augur well for a time. We heard also of a call upon the Special Magistracy, by His Excellency Colonel Torrens, to furnish returns showing what was the average number of labourers employed upon the different estates, and what the additional number for which full employment could be found on the same. All this seemed very promising, and, to a certain degree, was encouraging to those who knew how to estimate correctly the importance of rendering the resources of the island available to an extent that was likely to advance the common interest. But, here is a whole year elapsed, and we find the question still as far back as ever—and the labouring force of the country, if we except

some 50 or 60 fugitives that have arrived from Martinique, and 150 to 200 Barbarians that have been introduced at the individual risk and expense of a few of our more enterprising proprietors, remains inefficient and hardly available for the regular cultivation of the staples. It is true, these endeavours to procure immigrants are still persevered in by those few gentlemen; but, for anything like general benefit to be looked for in the result of the immigration, it must be promoted upon a more extensive scale than it is reasonable to expect may be done from the private means of two or three individuals.

BRITISH NORTH AMERICA.

BERMUDA.—Some Bermuda cedar-berries having been recently sent to Calcutta, in India, a letter acknowledging their arrival has been received here. The pulp being left upon the berries when sent from Bermuda, they arrived in India in a state of fermentation. As an experiment, a few of them were submitted to pressure, when they were found to afford a large quantity of almond-like oil.

The same letter speaks of the Beche-de-Mer; and the writer remarks that no doubt it is found at Bermuda, and he supposes it must be here an article of commerce, and that the American ships take it from Boston to China. It is true that the Beche-de-Mer is abundant in the sea around Bermuda, and it is not less true that it ought to be an article of commerce here. The Beche-de-Mer is of a black colour, and is to be seen lying in great numbers at the bottom of the sea on any calm day. They are cured by splitting and drying them over a wood fire. The Chinese value them as delicate food, and pay a high, remunerating price for them.

NOVA SCOTIA.—The Legislature was opened by His Excellency Lord Falkland. The topics adverted to in His Excellency's speech are the failure of the potato crop, and the necessity of devising means to alleviate consequent

distress; the great railroad to Quebec; protection of the fisheries; and instructions from Her Majesty's Government relative to the relinquishment of the casual and territorial revenues, in exchange for an established civil list.

CANADA.—We have Quebec dates to the 26th January, and Toronto and Montreal to the 24th and 28th.

The accounts from the Province are unimportant. The Provincial Revenue returns for 1845 are said to exceed those of 1844 by £55,000. The journals continue to note warlike preparations along the frontiers, and to discuss the aspect of the Oregon question. A meeting, held at Montreal had passed resolutions inviting the Northern members of the American United States to separate from the Slave States and join Canada. The Canadians viewed with some alarm the near approach of a free trade in corn.

The *Quebec Gazette* of the 7th Jan. has a long and well-timed article on the settlement of the lower shores of the St. Lawrence, called forth by the recent shipwrecks in that river, and the loss of life and extreme suffering consequent upon the absence of settlements where assistance could be obtained, when required, for the preservation of life and property. The evil is spoken of as discreditable to the country and the Government, and injurious to the general interests of the Province.—For the purpose of encouraging settlements, a proposition is made of free grants of land, to the amount of 90 arpents, to actual settlers, with provisions and seeds for the first year, and gratuitous passage to the new settlements, the whole of which to be placed and continued under the superintendence of a competent surveyor.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS.

BIRTHS.

At Malvern Plantation, Barbados, Jan. 4, the lady of Josiah Heath, M.C.P., of a daughter.

At Government House, Fredericton, New Brunswick, on the 12th Jan., the lady of Alfred Reade, Esq., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

At St. George's Church, Perth, Western Australia, on the 8th August, by the Rev. J. B. Wittenoom, Colonial Chaplain, Geo. Cunningham Melkicam, Esq., M.D., 51st King's Own Light Infantry, to Ellen Mary Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Charles Symmons, Esq., Protector of Aborigines, and granddaughter of the late John Symmons, Esq., of Ewhurst Park, Hants, and Paddington House, Middlesex.

At St. Peter's Church, Barbados, on the 10th Jan., Mr. Solomon Sandiford, to Miss Rosa Cumberbatch; the united ages of this *youthful* couple making 160 years.

On the 24th Feb., at St. Mary's, Bryanstone Square, by the Rev. Mr. Penfold, Robert Archibald Young, Esq., of Quebec, Canada, to Mary Charlotte, only daughter of Richard Norman, Esq., of Bryanstone Square.

DEATHS.

On the 19th Feb., at Maidstone, Kent, in his 70th year, James New Paris, Esq., of the Island of Nevis, in the West Indies; for many years a Member of H. Majesty's Council in that Island, and Lieut.-Col. of the Militia.

On the 21st Feb., at Bath, Anne, wife of Kenneth Murchison, Esq., late Governor of Pinang.

Killed in action, in the Punjab, in December, Major-General Sir Robert Henry Sale, G.C.B. In October, 1838, he was appointed to the command of the 1st Bengal Brigade of the Army up the Indus, which formed the advance in the campaign in Afghanistan. Commanded the storming party at Ghuznee, under the late Lord Keane, on the 23rd of July, when he was severely wounded. Shortly afterwards he was nominated a K.C.B., and received the rank of Major-General in Afghanistan; he was also presented with the second-class decoration of the order of the Douranee Empire. He commanded the force sent to subdue the Kohistan country in September, 1840; and, after numerous stormings and captures, compelled Dost Mahommed Khan to surrender himself to the care of Sir William M'Naughten; for these distinguished services he received the first-class order of the Douranee Empire. In 1842, he defended Jellalabad under very disadvantageous circumstances, and was nominated a G.C.B. for his services on the occasion. He also received the thanks of Parliament for his skill, intrepidity, and perseverance displayed in the military operations in Afghanistan. He possessed three medals, viz., for Ghuznee, Cabool, and Jellalabad. He closed his career in the arms of victory, after nearly fifty-two years' service, and at the advanced age of 63.

COLONIAL, FOREIGN, AND GENERAL MERCHANTILE AGENCY,

6, BARGE YARD, BUCKLESBURY, LONDON,

ESTABLISHED for the purpose of concentrating the **COMMISSION AND AGENCY BUSINESS** for the Continent and the Colonies; giving extended publicity to **Business Announcements**; procuring and communicating authentic information in regard to the **Sale and Purchase of LANDS and MERCHANDISE**, Home and Colonial; facilitating the **Departure of PASSENGERS** and the **Transmission of SMALL PARCELS**; providing **OUTFITS**; effecting **MARINE and LIFE ASSURANCES**; and transmitting to the **NEXT OF KIN**, from **Intestate Estates**, Administration of the real and personal Property of such deceased Persons, together with other **Business**, which is transacted, on a moderate Commission, to all Parties interested in or proceeding to the **BRITISH COLONIES and FOREIGN POSSESSIONS BEYOND THE SEAS.**

UNDER THE MANAGEMENT OF

MESSRS. SIMMONDS & WARD,
COLONIAL AGENTS & COMMISSION MERCHANTS.

The Proprietors respectfully submit the extensive arrangements of their Establishment for transacting the several Branches of Agency, trusting that all Parties availing themselves of its instrumentality will find their object attained with expedition and advantage, and in the most confidential and satisfactory manner. They are prepared to give the most satisfactory references, and beg to add, as a proof of the confidence which may be reposed in them, that they supply Lloyd's, the Royal Exchange Subscription Room, and the Universal Hall of Commerce, with their Papers. There is scarcely a port or a town where a newspaper is issued from which they do not procure the latest intelligence by every arrival.

For the purpose of rendering the Establishment generally useful, the following, among others, are the objects contemplated:—

COMMERCIAL DEPARTMENT.

CONSIGNMENTS—Messrs. S. & W. receive Consignments of Colonial Produce and Merchandise, to be sold on commission; accepting Bills at

two months for two-thirds of the value on inspection of the goods, the balance to be paid to parties duly authorised to receive it, or remitted by first mail. Messrs. S. & W. beg to impress on their Friends the necessity of early advice respecting the amount to be insured per ship or ships. Consignments entrusted to their care will meet with every possible despatch in their disposal, and the Sales be conducted with the greatest attention to the interests of the Consignor. Messrs. S. & W. trust their long knowledge and extended experience of general business as Colonial Agents in London, coupled with promptitude, attention, and judgment, will enable them to give satisfaction to those who may favour them with their business. The advices of Consignments should contain an accurate description of the goods. In all cases of inquiry as to the probable demand for or value of intended Consignments, it is desirable that average samples should be sent, with full particulars.

Samples and Books of Patterns are forwarded or procured for Merchants and Manufacturers. The latest Prices-current obtained from all quarters of the world, and Business Cards and Circulars transmitted abroad.

Information afforded as to the best Markets, the most respectable Consignees or Commission Agents in different places; the Freight, foreign and local Import Duties and Tariffs, &c.

Foreign Agents recommended and appointed when required.

The sale or purchase of British and Foreign Patents negotiated.

COMMISSIONS of every description transacted in London for Parties residing in the Country or the Colonies, with the greatest attention and despatch.

REMITTANCES.—It is essential that all Orders should be accompanied by a remittance in full, which can be made by drafts through the several local Colonial Banks, by bills of exchange, or by orders for payment on some mercantile house in London, Liverpool, or Glasgow.

MARINE INSURANCES effected on Goods and Merchandise; also **LIFE ASSURANCES**, to cover the risks of the voyage, or whilst residing on the coast or interior of a Colony.

All Persons before sailing are strongly recommended, as a matter of prudence, to insure their Baggage and Effects, which can be effected at a small per-centage, depositing the Policy with some friend; and in cases where property is left behind, a power of attorney should be executed, authorising some person to act as their legal representative.

PARTIES PROCEEDING TO THE COLONIES, &c.—Messrs.

S. & W. undertake the negotiation of **PASSAGES** on the most advantageous terms, combining economy and comfort. Plans and Terms of any Ships may be had on application. **BAGGAGE** collected, shipped, and insured. Passports obtained and letters of introduction furnished to Parties travelling, and information regarding the routes supplied.

OUTFITS.—Passengers and Emigrants completely fitted out with every article required for the voyage. Messrs. S. & W., from a knowledge of the best markets for all descriptions of Clothing, Merchandize, Seeds, Agricultural Implements, &c., are able to recommend where such articles, best suited to the wants of Intending Colonists, can be most speedily and advantageously purchased.

LAND.—Every information may be obtained respecting the terms and regulations upon which Land is disposed of in Canada and the British North American Provinces, the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, Prince of Wales Island, Hong Kong, New South Wales, Van Diemen's Land, Western Australia, South Australia, New Zealand, and other Colonies.

Proprietors of Land, Estates, and other Property in the Colonies treated with for the purchase and re-sale of the same.

PARTIES ARRIVING FROM THE COLONIES may have their Bills on London cashed, their Luggage cleared without the attendance of the Owners, and any business at the Custom-house, Docks, or elsewhere transacted, thereby saving much trouble, delay, and expense. Ladies and Children arriving from abroad, on previous information being given, will be met by one of the Principals at any of the outports, and all necessary arrangements made for their landing, securing accommodations in London, and eventual transmission to their friends in the country.

SHIPPING AND FORWARDING DEPARTMENT.

FREIGHTS.—Messrs. S. & W. continue to receive and ship from London, Liverpool, or Southampton, by every steamer or vessel, all descriptions of Goods, Merchandize, Live Stock, Parcels, Books, Specie, and Packages of every description, to the Continent, the United States, the East and West Indies, the Cape of Good Hope, Australasia, South America, and all parts of the world. And in order to facilitate the conveyance of **SMALL PARCELS**, Messrs. S. & W. engage to forward such to all

the Colonies at a fixed and uniform charge, which will include all expenses of freight to the port of landing, viz.—

For PARCELS not exceeding 4lbs., 5s. each.

If above that weight, at the usual rate per cubic foot, as charged for measurement goods. Packages shipped and cleared inwards. In all cases Messrs. S. & W. request to be advised of the contents and value of Goods sent for shipment, in order that they may be cleared at the Customs.

PERSONS IN THE COUNTRY connected in any way with the Colonies, and who may be desirous of despatching Newspapers, Periodicals, Parcels, or Letters to their friends, are recommended to forward them through this Agency.

Every information afforded as to the arrival and departure of Vessels, and the latest dates in town from particular Colonies.

LETTERS AND NEWSPAPERS received for and from the United States, the East and West Indies, Australasia, China, the Continent, and the Colonies, and forwarded agreeably to instruction by the first opportunity. Every information furnished as to the quickest Mail-routes, the Rates of Postage, &c. Parties who have no account with the Firm must forward a remittance with their letters or parcels, or they will not be transmitted.

NEWSPAPER DEPARTMENT.

ENGLISH NEWSPAPERS, &c.—In consequence of their extensive Newspaper Agency, and having the supply of most of the leading News Rooms, Clubs, Public Libraries, and Chambers of Commerce at home and in the Colonies, with their London and Continental Newspapers, Messrs. S. & W. trust that Parties will feel confidence in transmitting their Orders for London, Provincial or Foreign Papers to this Establishment, and depend upon their regular and prompt receipt. A list of all the London Newspapers, with their prices, will be forwarded on demand.

FOREIGN NEWSPAPERS.—Messrs. S. & W. having devoted their attention for a long period principally to the supply of Foreign and Colonial Papers, may be permitted to state without fear of contradiction, that there is no Establishment possessed of so much information relating to the Foreign Press, having such facilities for the prompt and regular supply of Foreign Newspapers, or where so many different Files of Papers, for a series of years, can be referred to. Being the specially-appointed Agents of most of the leading Foreign Journals, and filing nearly every

British Colonial Newspaper that is published, their information on this head is necessarily of the most varied and authentic character. The ~~Best~~ Papers for special information, whether official, political, general, maritime, literary or commercial, with their prices, can always be ascertained on application.

Orders for any Newspaper, Magazine, Periodical, or Book, published in Europe, America, or the Colonies, will be received and executed without delay, whether the order be for a single copy or a series of numbers. The attention of the Proprietors of Public Libraries, Clubs, News Rooms, Hotels, Schools, Editors of Newspapers, News Agents, and Private Gentlemen is respectfully called to this department.

ADVERTISING DEPARTMENT.—Advertisements are received for insertion in all the British and Foreign Newspapers and Periodical Publications. From their extended experience, Messrs. S. & W. are enabled to afford the most prompt, detailed, and explicit information as to the best mediums of publicity for Professional or Commercial Announcements, and the character, circulation, and advertising charges of every Newspaper published: the continuous files, or specimen copies, may also be examined at their Offices. Notices of Insolvency or Dissolution of Partnership, for insertion in the "London Gazette," or Official Gazettes of the Colonies, must be drawn up by a Solicitor and sworn to before a Master in Chancery. Advertisements and Prospectuses of every kind are prepared and translated at a moderate charge, regulated according to their nature and length.

NEWSPAPER PROPRIETORS AND PRINTERS will find it to their interest to put themselves into regular and frequent communication with this Agency, by which they will find their views served and their objects furthered. Supplies of every kind and quantity, and of the best quality, can be always procured through Messrs. S. & W. upon the most moderate terms.

Printing Papers of every weight and quality supplied; also, New and Second-hand Printing Materials; Hand-Machines, either for Newspaper or Book Work; Presses of every description, from double royal to card; Ink; Rollers; Type for Newspaper, Book Work, and Jobbing, in complete founts; together with every other article requisite to furnish a Printing Office, for the execution of Letter-press or Copper-plate Printing, Lithography, and Bookbinding, to any extent.

Specimen Books of Types, and Priced Lists of Presses and other Materials for a Printing Office, with Estimates, will always be forwarded to order.

Editors, Reporters, and Compositors are engaged when required ; and the Sale or Purchase of the Copyrights of Newspapers negotiated ; Debts collected ; and every matter attended to for which the services of confidential London Agents can be required.

Summaries of News and the latest editions of Newspapers are transmitted by every packet to those Editors who may desire them.

LITERARY AGENCY.

The Sale of Copyrights and the Publication of New Works will be undertaken, and Estimates given of the charges for Printing, Paper, Advertising, &c. Periodicals and Works printed in the Colonies may be sent home on sale, and reviews and notices of them will be procured in the British and Continental Journals. Authors may have their Works published on the Continent, in America, and in England at the same time. Information, facts, &c. obtained at the public institutions and libraries of Great Britain, and also of Paris and other foreign capitals, by consulting scarce works there, and which Authors, on account of their absence from those places, may not be able personally to examine.

Publishers and Authors at home who may be desirous of bringing New Books, Periodicals, Engravings, Music, &c. before the Colonial Public, can obtain of them every information as to the best mode of doing so ; which are considered the leading Papers, their character and circulation ; the cost of transit, for freight, duty, &c.

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Translations from all the European Languages made with elegance and fidelity.

The experience Messrs. S. & W. have had in the editing and publishing of their COLONIAL MAGAZINE is the best guarantee of their competency to revise Works, and pass a judgment on the probability of their success.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LEGAL DOCUMENTS are prepared strictly conformable with the necessary forms of the Colonies and Great Britain, carefully forwarded for execution, and returned with the greatest despatch.

HEIRS AT LAW AND NEXT OF KIN—(Persons dying intestate in the Colonies)—can procure the names and full particulars of all Parties dying abroad, with the administration of their Estates ; and Legatees can also obtain attested copies of wills, with an account of the real and personal property of the deceased. Copies of registers of births, deaths,

and marriages throughout the British Colonies and Possessions beyond the seas, as well as Foreign Countries, procured, duly certified.

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The long connexion of our Mr. WARD with the principal Spanish, Portuguese, and French Houses, enables us to offer WINES and BRANDIES of the finest marks on the most favourable terms.

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Messrs. S. & W. invite attention to the following appointment from one of the leading houses in the Carpet trade:—

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GENTLEMEN,---I hereby appoint you sole agents for the Colonies and Foreign Possessions for all goods of my manufacture; viz., Superior Brussels and Velvet Pile Carpeting, and Superior Worsted Rugs.

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Messrs. S. & W. beg to draw the attention of the Public to the following letter from JEAN MARIA FARINA, the oldest Distiller in Cologne:—

Cologne, October 29, 1844.

"Wishing to prevent the frequent impositions which occur from the large quantity of Imitation of my EAU DE COLOGNE which is shipped to the Colonies and Foreign Possessions, and which imitation is of a most inferior quality, and not to be compared with my celebrated fabrication, I hereby appoint you as my special Agents for shipment to the Colonies, and you will always have a Stock on hand at the following Prices, that you may execute with promptitude all Orders which my friends may favour you with.

I	quality Eau de Cologne, double	9s. 6d.	} per Dozen, in short or long } Bottles, with gold labels.
II	" do. do. single	4s. 6d.	
III	" do. do. "	3s. 6d. in long green bottles.	

In Cases from 25 to 50 Dozen, Freight paid to London (exclusive of Duty).
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Any information not considered sufficiently explanatory, S. & W. will render by return of post. But in consequence of the extensive correspondence of the Firm, they have to request that all Letters may be post-paid; and they beg to be understood, that they cannot pay the postage of Letters in reply to applications.

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This Room has been opened for the especial convenience of parties interested in the Colonies; there being no similar establishment in the Metropolis where all the Colonial and Foreign Papers can be seen, and the files referred to for many years past. The Room is also well supplied with the principal London Daily and Weekly Papers and Periodicals, many Provincial Papers, and all new Works relating to the Colonies, with a Standard Library of Reference. At least 500 files of different Papers are regularly received, comprising the Journals from the following places:—

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